

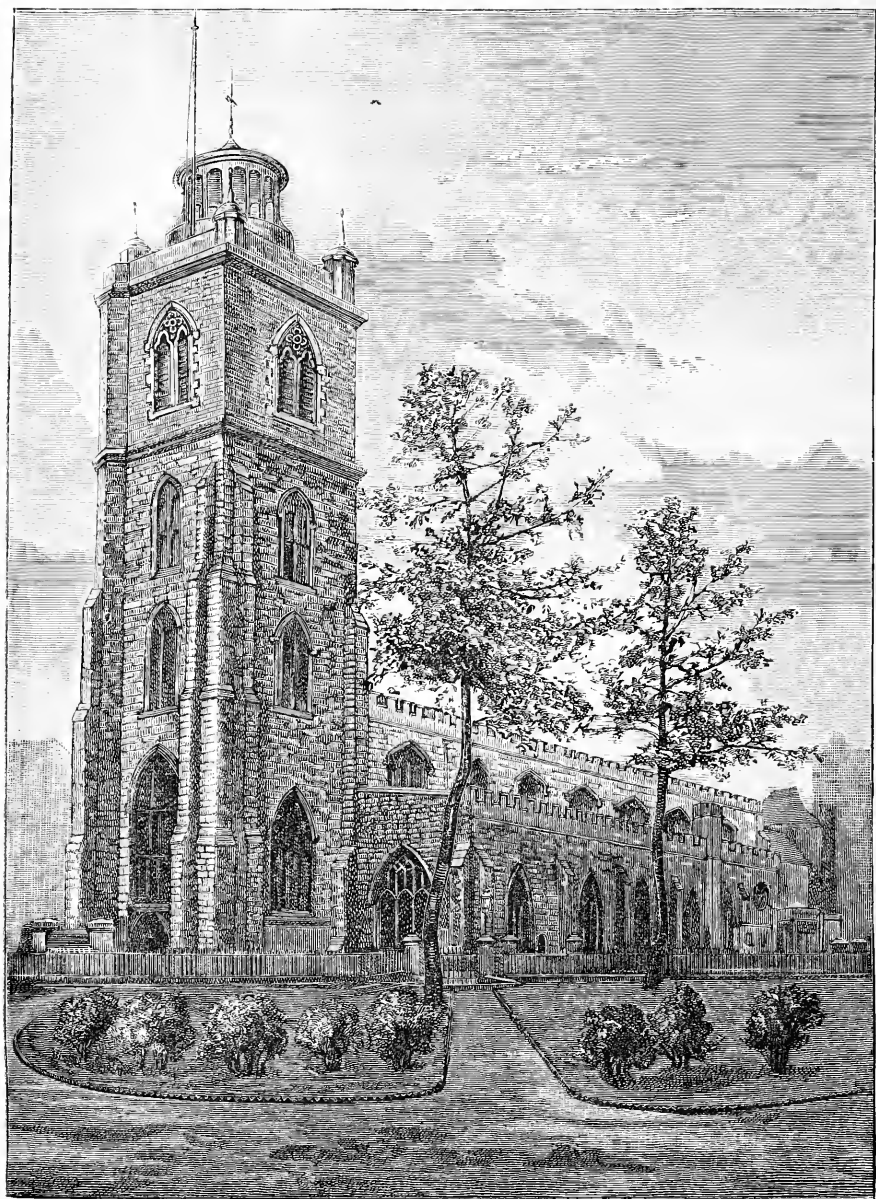
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ST. GILES' CHURCH, CRIPPLEGATE, 1888.

(South-west aspect.)

AN ACCOUNT
OF THE
CHURCH AND PARISH
OF
ST. GILES,
WITHOUT CRIPPLEGATE,
IN THE
CITY OF LONDON.

*Compiled from various old authorities, including the Churchwardens'
Accounts, and the Vestry Minute Books of the Parish,*

BY
JOHN JAMES BADDELEY,
CHURCHWARDEN, 1887-8.

Illustrated by Wood Engravings specially executed for this work.

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PREFACE.

THIS compilation arose from my desire to follow in the footsteps of many Churchwardens of St. Giles, Cripplegate, in doing something more lasting for my fellow-parishioners than could be done by merely performing the routine duties of the office. I have also further objects in view, first to benefit two of our useful Charitable Institutions with the proceeds derived from the sale of the book, and secondly, what is perhaps of more importance, to endeavour to arouse in some of my neighbours in Cripplegate an interest in, and a desire to serve, their ancient Church and Parish.

On account of the many historic characters connected with the Church, this book may have a wider circulation than amongst those for whose pleasure and information it was chiefly written. I would, therefore, say to all into whose hands it may fall, that although the facts stated, and the extracts taken from the Parish and other books, are, I believe, correct in every particular, yet it is not intended as a book for reference.

Though the title is "An Account of the Church and Parish," no attempt has been made to deal in detail with the many notable and historic characters once resident therein, nor to treat of the

domestic or trade history of the Parish. Those curious in such matters may be referred to the excellent volume on the subject, published in 1883, by the late Rev. W. Denton. I have contented myself with giving a general outline only of the state of the Parish, paying more particular attention to the History of the Church, and of the officials and others connected with it, as found in the Parish Records. The extracts from these have been left, as far as possible, to tell their own tale.

The Illustrations will, it is hoped, supply a long-felt want for some pictorial memento of the Church, and the historic monuments within its walls, and may help to cover many possible errors in the text, both of omission and commission.

My first and warmest thanks are due, and are here given to the Rev. James Christie, Curate of St. Bartholomew's, Moor Lane, for the invaluable assistance he has given me in searching the Parish Records, and for information respecting the lives of several of the Vicars, as well as for general information and help in the course of the work. To Mr. Hammond I am indebted for the particulars of the alterations in the Church in recent times. To Mr. Welch, of the Guildhall Library, and to Dr. Sharpe, Records' Clerk of the Town Clerk's Office, Guildhall, my thanks are also due, and are here given, for assistance and advice in my many searches in the books and documents under their care. In passing, I would say that, under the usual wise liberality of the Corporation of the City of London, the Records in the form of Wills and Deeds, known as the Hustings Roll, have been calendared, the Wills being already in the hands of the printers. When these calendars are completed, they will be of invaluable assistance to the searchers after facts concerning the lives and customs of the ancient inhabitants of our great city.

It gives me much pleasure to thank the officers of the Church for their help at all times willingly rendered, and

especially for their invariable courtesy on the many occasions on which their patience must have been tried during the preparation of this book.

In conclusion, my readers' forbearance is asked for all faults of style and composition, and for the incomplete manner in which many of the subjects are treated, and I would have them note that the whole was compiled by one who had no previous experience of such work, and who, full of public and private business, had comparatively little time at his disposal, except that obtained by a free expenditure of midnight oil.

J. J. B.

June, 1888.



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THE CHURCH AND PARISH.

OF the earliest history of the noble structure which forms the subject of these pages very little information can now be authenticated; but to obtain a glimpse of the surroundings and times of the original building, let the reader allow his imagination to wander to that period in history when the reign of our first Norman king was drawing to a close—a time when the only place of comparative safety for life and liberty was within, or in close proximity to, a city wall—and then picture to himself the aspect of the immediate surroundings of the northern side of the boundary wall of the City of London. From the Creek of the Thames—afterwards called the Fleet Ditch—on the west, to Bishopsgate on the east, and stretching away northward, where are now Finsbury, Hoxton and Islington, right away to the great Essex Forest, was an almost unbroken, dreary and impassable marsh and swamp, quite unfit for building an edifice of any size or importance upon. The number of houses and inhabitants no doubt were very few, and what particular reason there may have been for building the church without the walls does not now appear; but such being the conditions and surroundings, the builder was doubtless led, in selecting a site, to choose a spot as near as could be to the wall of the city, not only with a view to the greater safety thus obtained, but also to secure a better

foundation for his work than could be found farther out. Possibly he also considered the convenience of the people living within the city, the spot chosen being very close to the postern gate—afterwards known as the Creple or Cripplegate—leading from the city to the Barbican.

The generally accepted origin of the word Cripplegate is that at this particular gate, cripples were in the habit of congregating to beg from the people passing through, and hence the name. The historian Stow seems to have started this derivation of the word, and succeeding writers have blindly quoted from him. The late Mr. Denton, however, in his *Records of Cripplegate* points out what would appear a more correct though less interesting origin. In reference to the popular rendering, he says: "The etymology must be sought elsewhere. Cripplegate was a postern gate leading to the Barbican, while this watch-tower in advance of the City walls was fortified. The road between the postern and the "burghkenning" ran necessarily between two low walls, most likely of earth, which formed what in fortification would be described as a covered way. The name in Anglo-Saxon would be "Crepel," "Cryfele" or "Crypele," a den or passage under ground, a burrow (*meatus subterraneus*) and "geat" a gate, street or way. (O. Sax., *gat*, a hole; Germ., *gasse* a thoroughfare, narrow road, *see* Bosworth's Ang. Sax. Dict.) This is confirmed by the occurrence of the name in Domesday Book, where in the Wiltshire portion we read, "To Wansdyke, thence forth by the dyke to Crypelgeat."

In 1244, Cripplegate was "rebuilt at the cost of the brewers," of whom there were many in the parish. Till then it had been a postern gate only, Aldersgate having been considered sufficient to meet the requirements for entrance from the north, but the increased business of the brewers rendered it advisable to provide further opening for the traffic to and from "within the walls."

From old authorities it is found that the builder of St. Giles' Church was one Alfune, afterwards the first Hospitaller of the Priory Church of Saint Bartholomew, and it is worthy of note that he is related to have given material assistance to Rahere the monk (described by Weaver as a "pleasant, conceited, wittie gentleman"), who about this time was erecting the neighbouring church of Saint Bartholomew. Alfune's experience in building Saint Giles' Church was no doubt of considerable service to Rahere in the arduous task of making good a foundation for his church in the swampy ground. We read "It was a work of infinite trouble and labour."

The building of Alfune's church was completed in the year 1090 A.D., and it was dedicated to Saint Giles, whose festival falls on the 1st of September, and to whom in the United Kingdom there are over 140 Churches dedicated, several of these, as here, just outside a City Gate. St. Giles was evidently a man much revered at that time, and of whom it is reported that he came of Royal parentage, and was born at Athens. "He was of singular charity, and gave away much to the poor; he even gave away the very coat from off his back to cover a poor sick man, who as soon as he had put it on was perfectly well." It is further related of him that "having a desire to live more solitary from the pleasures of the world and concourse of people, he privily departed thence into a wilderness, where he obscured himself in a horrid cave, unto which place Charles Martell, King of France, while hunting, accidentally came. His hounds, chasing a hind, which hind gave milk for the sustenance of this Giles, and which flying from the hounds to his cave for succour, the hounds, by the prayers of Giles, were not able to pursue her farther than a stone's cast from the cave, and after there making a stand, returned howling to the hunters. This being reported to Charles, he with his retinue came in person to the cave, where finding this Giles, and wondering to see so grave and holy a man in such an uncouth place, he demanded of him what he was, and what he did there? Who answered that he hid himself there for Religion and for Pietie's sake. Upon which answer and conference with him, admiring his sanctity, he took such an affection to him that he caused a monastery to be erected in that place, over which he made Giles governor or abbot." The spot is where the town of Nismes now stands, and there Saint Giles died in A.D. 700.

After the death of Alfune, the founder, we find the church in possession of one Almund, who bequeathed it, after the death of his son, to the Canons of St. Paul's Cathedral, and through the eight intervening centuries, the Dean and Chapter have appointed the successive Vicars. Of the original building thus referred to, no trace now remains, unless, as some archæologists have thought, that—from peculiarities of construction—the lower portion of the tower (when compared with the architecture known to belong to that date) can claim to be part of the original structure.

Stow, in his "Survey of London," says that "the church was at first a small thing but hath been since at divers times much enlarged as the Parish hath increased, and was newly builded." This took place about

the years 1392-3. The church thus rebuilt is for the most part substantially the same as that now standing. Of its history during the three hundred years that elapse between the founding of the original church and this rebuilding but little record is found. That the Church had a place in the affections of those worshipping there, cannot be doubted, for in the Hustings Roll of the Corporation in 1274, it is recorded that John de Hayleghe and Johanna his wife, left a house in Red Cross Street and 12 pence quit-rent, towards the maintenance of the fabric of the Church of St. Giles. Again in 1280, Geoffrey de Catenham, painter-stainer, bequeathed a sum of money for the service of the Church of St. Giles and for maintaining a lamp therein. Again in 1282, Lucy, relict of Ralph Atecok, left the reversion of certain tenements on the Moor, in trust for sale for pious uses in the Church of St. Giles. Again, A.D. 1305, Osbert de Essex, tanner, left by his will the sum of 12 pence charged on his house in the parish of St. Giles without Cripplegate, towards the maintenance of the fabric of the said Parish Church. Again, in 1307, Walter de Bredstrete left 100 marks for the maintenance of four chaplains in the Church of St. Giles for a term of 5 years. Again, in 1309, Richard le Brus, tanner, devised to John and Thomas his sons, and to Matilda his daughter, his tenement in the parish of St. Giles, to hold in successive tail the holder for the time being maintaining thereout a wax taper of four pounds weight, to burn before the Blessed Virgin in the said church. Again, A.D. 1310, Albríe de Finchingfeld, son of Walter de Finchingfeld, late Alderman, left by will a certain piece of land to be devoted to the maintenance of the fabric of the Parish Church of St. Giles. In the matter of chantries, on the same authority we find that a bequest was made for a chantry by Margery de Bredstrete, relict of Walter Bredstrete, circ. A.D. 1316. This family seem to have been closely connected with Cripplegate, as towards the end of this century we find John de Bredstrete bequeathing to his wife "the reversion of certain houses in St. Giles de Crepulgate near le Juesgardyn" (Jewin Street). Thomas le Plastrer left an annual rent of 4 shillings in support of a "fraternal" chantry in the Church of St. Giles.

The district surrounding the Church seems to have undergone little change; a ditch, varying from one to two hundred feet broad had been dug round the city wall (A.D. 1211), making firmer ground in its immediate neighbourhood. On its banks a few houses sprang up, but the swamps and morasses all round prevented any extensive

building, and caused much illness—ague in the winter, and fever and the “black death” in the summer. Stow, speaking of the time of Edward II, says that “the space of ground between Bishopsgate and the Cripplegate Postern, and some distance north in Finsbury, was let at four marks per annum.” This absurdly low price, even for that time, will give an idea of the little value attached to the land in this vicinity. The character of the district may also be inferred from the fact that, at this time, there was a “Fishery” in Moorfields, belonging to the City, of which it was deprived some few years afterwards. From A.D. 1250 to 1300, the Hustings Roll shows that goldbeaters, filhackeres (file hackers), cordwainers, pelterers (skin dressers), pepperers (grocers), bladers (bladesmiths*), curriers, skinnners, moniers (minters or makers of coins), spurriers (spur makers), tanners, plasterers, frippeurs (dealers in old clothes), all resided in this district. Grobbe or Grubbe Street seems to have been the principal Street, and we even find the church called St. Giles de Grubbe Street. Redcross Street is also often mentioned. A tenement willed by Hugh Moton, the City Chamberlain, in A.D. 1284, is described as near “la Redcruche Street.” “More Street,” also occasionally occurs. Tanners seem to have been especially plentiful. In 1348, the year of the “Black Death,” when so many citizens perished, one John Baudri, a tanner, of the Moor, desires in his will to be buried near the tomb of his father in the churchyard of St. Giles Cripplegate.

An effort seems to have been made to remedy the unhealthy state of the district in 1414, by digging ditches to drain the Moor, and by making paths and causeways across it to Finsbury, and even further north. Stow, writing of this, says “Of these Moorfields you have formerly read what a moorish rotten ground they were—impassable but for the causeways purposely made to that intent.” Of the church itself we can obtain no glimpse, but parishioners and others were no doubt still active in contributing to the support of its services and of the fabric itself. In Dr. Furnivall’s “Fifty earliest English Wills,” we find in 1439, Sir Ralph Rochefort (who was buried in the church) giving his best horse as a burial fee, 20s. each to Lincoln Cathedral and St. Giles, Cripplegate, this last for the maintenance of the fabric, and after other bequests, the residue to his executors to be applied to pious uses for the good of testator’s soul. In 1450, we find “Articles agreed upon by the Company of Painters in London, for supporting a light before the images

* This is given on the authority of Stow, but Riley, in his “Memorials,” says that a “blader” was a cornmonger.

of the Virgin and St. Luke in the Church of St. Giles, without Cripplegate," and from this time to 1550, there are many presentations of chantries to the church. Amongst others, the Fraternity of Our Lady of St. Giles, founded by John Ballincer and others, who gave to the Master and Wardens of the same Fraternity to find a Chaplain and two lights there, £13 17s. 4d. per annum. The value of house property can best be judged from an Inquisition at Guildhall, 18 and 19 Henry 6th, into the possessions of St. Peter, Westminster. Among these are "4 tenements in the More in the Parish of St. Giles, which are worth by the year 32 shillings, also 4 ditto in Grub Street, at 32 shillings."

During the fifteenth century little or no record is given as to the state of the Parish; probably no further improvements were made, as owing to the Wars of the Roses then raging, and the general lawlessness of the period, honest men preferred to live within the protection of the city walls, and enjoy the privileges of citizenship, from which they were debarred if living without. The drainage having improved the land however, we find it used for agricultural purposes, "yeomen" being referred to as of the neighbourhood. The few "houses" then existing were, for the most part, miserable wooden sheds, or thatched mud and clay cottages, without chimneys or glazed windows—the wretched inhabitants living and sleeping in one room, on their palettes of rushes, hay and straw, and with the most filthy surroundings, ready to fall an easy prey to the prevalent fevers, plague, and other dire diseases.

During the more settled and peaceful reigns of Henry the Seventh and Henry the Eighth, Cripplegate enjoyed, with the rest of the country, security, and therefore prosperity. At this period, the Hustings Roll gives, in addition to those before mentioned, the following trades as carried on in the Parish: In 1484 a husbandman, a sherman (a shearer of cloth), a yeoman, a cheseman, a mercer, and a butcher are mentioned; and from 1500 to 1550, bowmakers, tallow chandlers, bierbruers, pewterers, haberdashers, gardyners, "brownbakers," vintners, "owners of tenter yarges," gurdeler (girdlers), are mentioned as parties to various deeds. The names of the signs (not restricted as now to public houses), are very varied, such as "The Cok and the Hynde," "le Crowne," "le Roundhope," "le Horne in the Hope," "le Harpe on the Hope," "le Doggeshed in le Potte," "le Castell," described as in Grubstrete and Fore Street; "le Christopher," "The Faucon," "The Swaune," at the corner of Golding Lane and Whitecross Street; "The Hartshorne," "The Cross Keyes," "The Swanne with two Neckes," "le Aqua Vite House," "The Mayden-

head in Moore Lane"; "The Redcrosse," in Grub Street. In the same deeds are mentioned "gardens in Whitecrosse Strete," "Barbycan Strete," "a brewhouse near Jewin Gardens," and "More Lane." "Grub Street" also called "High Street," "le Morestrete" occurs; and present dwellers in Redcross Street should mark "Redecrowchestrete." Further work was done towards reclaiming the Moor. Stow tells us that in 1512 "The Maior caused divers Dikes to be cast and made to drain the waters of the said Morefield, with Bridges arched over them, and the ground levelled. Whereby the fair field was made somewhat more commodious, but yet at flood full of noisome waters"; and again in 1527, that "The Maior caused divers sluices to be made to convey the said water over the Town Ditch into the course of the Walbrook." This improved condition of the moor caused many of the nobility and gentry to build for themselves residences in the district, and documents in the Rolls Office for 1522, under heading St. Giles' Without Crepulgate, show the increased value of land, and also the difference in the class of the inhabitants.

Lady Mary Willoughby, in lands yearly, 500 marks; in goods, 600 marks.

Mr. Garter Principal King of Arms, £40.

Charles Wreothlesle, in lands and fees, £38 6s. 8d.; in goods, £40.

Norré King of Arms, in goods, £40; in fees, £20.

Sir William Bulmer, in lands, £30.

The Brotherhood of our Lady and St. Giles, in lands, £30; in goods, £60.

The aristocracy of the neighbourhood evidently availed themselves of the services of their Parish (St. Giles') Church. Many were baptized, married, and buried there, though the monuments and brasses placed on the walls to their memory were unfortunately destroyed in a fire, A.D. 1545 (described later on). "By which mischance," says Stow, "the monuments of the dead are now very few."

The following extract shows the value of houses:—1526—"House in Crepulgate belonging to the late monastery of Lesnes, granted to Thomas Chamberleyn, of London, Pewterer, for 31 years, at 31s." Bell foundries, of which there were many in the Parish in the seventeenth century, were in full operation; the following curious entry occurs—1524—in an account of "Revels at Greenwich"—under Lord Leonard Gray, brother to "Markus Dorset":—

"Bought at Krepyllgaat a metal bell for the watch bell of the Castle, 8s.; Timber for ye four shields, and painting them, 9s. 4d.; 2 bundles

of brown paper for the unicorn and mountain of rock, 2s. ; 4-lbs. of glue, 1s. ; a bushel of wheat-flour for paste, 16d. ; 16 hoops and 400 spleters 'for inbossing of the best' and repairing the mountain, 22d. ; 2-cwt. of rope, 31s. 3d."

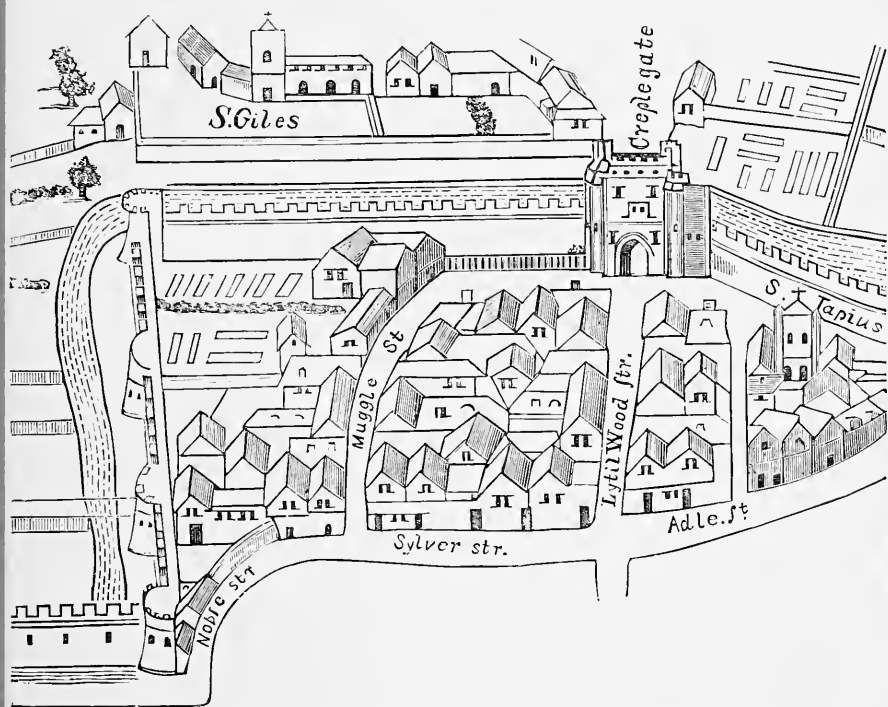
In addition to these honest traders, we find a less desirable class of people settling down in the rear of Fore Street, Grub Street (now Milton Street) and Moor Lane, comprising a large sprinkling of counterfeit-coiners, receivers of stolen goods, ale house keepers of bad repute, and also many foreigners or "Strangers," who, through the natural jealousy of the City freemen and apprentices, were driven here for shelter. Beggars and rogues seem to have been well looked after, however. In 1519 occurs the following entry:—

"Idle, vagrant, and suspicious persons taken by the Mayor and Aldermen of London in their several Wards upon Sunday night (8th July) last past, by the commandment of the King's most honourable Council at 12 o'clock at midnight—"Three' were found in Cripplegate."

Such, briefly, was the character of the inhabitants and surroundings of the church during this period, which itself must have had an uneventful time, as little mention is found of it in contemporary chronicles, till we come to "The Fire," which took place, as before mentioned, in 1545.

In a short contemporary "London Chronicle," the following notice of it is given:—"The xij day of September, Saturday, in the morning, about five of the klock, was Saynt Jyles's Church burnd, belles and alle, w'tout Crepellgate"; or as another chronicler puts it:—"Item, the xij day of September, of iiij cloke in the morning, was Sent Gylles's Church at Creppyllgate burned, alle hole, save the walles, stepall, and alle, and how it came God knoweth." Wriothesley, who was a resident in Cripplegate, and possibly an eye witness, says:—"The 12th daie of September, about fower of the clocke in the morninge, the church of St. Giles without Criplegate was espied on fire, which church, with the steeple and bells, was cleene burned before seaven of the clocke in the same morning, the stone walles onelie saved, which could not burne, by what means no man could tell." The variety of the orthography, especially of the proper names, is remarkably characteristic of the age. The fire was confined to the interior; the walls appear to have sustained little damage, probably owing to their great thickness, those in the tower being nearly five feet of solid masonry; the whole seems to have been speedily restored, but the great loss to the antiquary and archæologist was the destruction of the brasses and monuments, and

of the books and papers concerning the vicars and various officers of the church—this was irreparable. Between this time and the end of the century the parish seems to have become more thickly peopled, especially at the western end, but there was still much vacant land, especially in the Moorfields. The contrast between the number of houses within the walls, and those without, is very great—as is very clearly shown in the map below (taken from Aggas' Map of London, 1556). This map



also very clearly delineates the city wall, with the ditch flowing round it, and also the area of the churchyard, but the outline of the church is but indistinctly given. At this time the ditch must have been a freely running stream, as Stow speaks of the "quantity of good fish taken in it."

In this early period many distinguished persons were interred in or around the church, amongst others: Sir Ralph Rochefort, 1439; Reginald, Earl of Kent, 1530; Sir Harry Grey, Earl of Kent, 1562; Reginald Grey, Earl of Kent, 1573; Thomas Hawley, King of Arms, 1575; Sir John Wriothesley, Garter King at Arms, 1588 (Weaver,

in his "Funeral Monuments," says:—"Here, under a large marble stone [whereupon no inscription is at this day remaining, neither any effigies of the deceased left, both of which were inlaid and engraven upon the monument] lieth the body of Sir John Wriothesley, Knight Garter Principle King at Armes"); John Fox, author of the "Acts and Monuments of the Church" commonly called the "Book of Martyrs," 1587; Robert Glover, Somerset Herald at Arms. Newcourt says, "Here likewise lay interred the body of Robert Glover, Somerset Herald, an indefatigable searcher after antiquities, over whose grave is a comely monument on the South wall of the Choir"; also in 1594, Sir Martin Frobisher, the great arctic voyager and fellow-worker with Drake, in his West Indian expeditions; and one who had no small share in the glory of the defeat of the Spanish Armada—commanding one of the largest of our ships, and receiving the honour of Knighthood (during the twelve days' fight) at the hands of Lord Howard of Effingham.

Machyn's Diary of events happening between 1550 and 1570 gives interesting accounts of baptisms and burials in the Parish Church of St. Giles, which seems to have been a fashionable church at this time for such ceremonies. There seems to have been as much fuss and ceremony over the one as the other, and the "good chere" was not the least part of the function.

1556-7.—"The xxx day of January was bered Master[ess] Ogull, the wyff of Master Ogull, in the parryche [church of] Sant Gylles with-out Crepulgatt, with ij whytt branchys, and a dosen staffe torchys, and iiij grett gylt candlystykes, and with iiij grett tapurs and armes upon them, and ij dosen of skochyons of armes and a black frere dyd pryche at masse for here."

1561.—"The xvj day of July was cristened Robard Dethyke the sune of ser Gylbartt Dethyke, Garter, in the parryche of sent Gylles withowt Crepull-gatte, and the chyrche hangyd with clothes of arrys and the cloth of state, and strode with gren rysses and strode with orbese, and ser Wylliam Huett depute for my lord of Shrowsbere and master Care depute for my lord Honsdon, and my lade Sakefeld the quen[']s depute; and after wafurs and epocrasse grett plente, and myche pepull ther, and my lade Yorke bare my lade depute's trayne; and so hom to here plase, and had a bankett."

1562.—"The xxx day of September was rayles mad at Sant [Giles's with] wtt Crepull-gatte and hanged with blake and armes [for the] gentyll knyght ser Hare Gray, and was brodur unto the [Earl of Kent]

with ij haroldes of armes, Master Clarenshux Kynge, and Ruge-crosse pursewantt of Armes, and he bare the helme and [crest, master] Clarenshux the cott of armes and then the standard and [banners of] armes; and the clarke syngyng; and then the corse covered [with a bla]ke velvett pall with a whyt crosse of saten and armes a-p[on it] and many morners in blake; and ther dyd pryche Master [Nowell] the [dean of] Powlles; and after he was bered home to the plase to d[inner, where] there was good chere, dener after dener tyll iiij of the [clock].” (The words in brackets are supplied by the Editor of the “Diary.”)

St. Giles’ Registers record the two last more tersely :—

“Robert Dethyke the sone of M^r. Garter was christened y^e xvi day of July, 1561.”

“S^r. Harry Graye, Knight was buried the last day of September, 1562.”

As an illustration of the general state of the Parish, of the crimes committed therein, and their subsequent penalties—the following extracts from the “Middlesex Sessions Rolls” will be interesting :—

1555.—*Philip and Mary*—

“A Coroner’s inquisition post-mortem taken at St. Giles Without Cripplegate, on a man who died suddenly, while making hay in a field called ‘Fyve Acres Felde.’”

1561-2.—*4th year of Queen Elizabeth*—

“True bill—That on the highway of Fynnesbury, in St. Giles Without Criplegate, two men assaulted Henry Byrkened, of Lincolne’s Inne, gentleman, and robbed him of a crymson sattin purse, with a key annexed to it, a gold ring set with two precious stones called a Turkeis and a Rubey, a hat, a linen kerchief, a sorrell gelding and a saddle. Sentence—to be hung.”

1580-1.—*23rd year of Queen Elizabeth*—

Richard Baker “did enter into recognizances to appear at the next Gaol delivery, for that hee killed a sheepe of two yeres olde for a lame (*sic!*), and so sold it to the disayte of the Queens subjects, and for killing an sellenge victualls on the Sabothe days.”

(In one of these Rolls of this same year occurs the name of the parish spelt variously—Creppelgate, Crippegate, and Criplegate—and in another of the same year, Crepegate.)

1584-5.—*27th year of Queen Elizabeth*—

A fight recorded—“Ralph Nashe being armed with a ‘bearing bille,’ and Richard Blisse with a ‘pyked staffe.’”

1587-8.—30th year of Queen Elizabeth—

Coroner's inquest post-mortem taken at "Fynnesbury," on the body of a man killed, as follows :—

"Wm. Pennington was walking to the House of Francis———, in St. Giles, Without Creplegate, tallow-chandler, when he was assaulted by the above man and 3 other persons, who came upon him with swords and daggers drawn, and before whom he retreated until he came to a post called 'the rayles,' then drew forthwith his sword and dagger, and lawfully defended himself, and in the affray he gave one of his assailants a blow on the thigh, of which he died, then and there."

1587-8.—30th year of Queen Elizabeth—

"At Finnesberrie, in the Parish of St. Giles Without, Creplegate, ——— slew and murdered ——— by giving him a sword wound in the left side of the breast, of which wound he died instantly."

1596-7.—39th year of Queen Elizabeth—

"True bill— That in a certain close called 'Bastion's Close,' in the parish of St. Giles, Creplegate, Edward Harewood, late of London, gentleman, assaulted Adam Crosby, gentleman, and then and there, with a sword, gave him a mortal blow, of which he died instantly. On his arraignment, Edward Harewood put himself 'Not Guilty' of Murder, but 'Guilty' of Manslaughter, and on asking for the book, read like a clerk, whereupon he was branded with the letter **T**, and delivered according to statute."

1597-8.—40th year of Queen Elizabeth—

——— "in a field on the back side of the Peste House, with a rapieur, gave his right breast a blow, of which he died instantly."

Many more such entries could be quoted, but these will suffice to show the dangerous and lawless state of the parish at this time. No mercy was shown to any found tampering with the coin of the realm (for which failing Cripplegate had a bad reputation). Quoting again the "Middlesex Sessions Rolls," under 7th year of James, we get "True Bill. —— Traitorously and feloniously diminishing certain moneys by clipping and filing them, to wit, two silver pieces called King James' shillings, nine silver pieces called Elizabeth's shillings, one silver piece called Phillipp and Mary shilling, two silver pieces called King James' halfe-shillings, and nineteen silver pieces called Elizabeth's half-shillings. Found Guilty, and sentenced to be taken from the court in which they were arraigned to Newgate Gaol, thence to Tyburne gallows, and there to be executed as traitors, with all the usual incidents of such an execution."

The religious difficulties of the time seem, too, to have found their way into the parish—

In a list of names and addresses of certain Papists in London (1578) with particulars of those who keep chaplains, attend mass, &c., occur the names of Baron Browne and Baron Lord of the Exchequer, of Redcross Street. These were Romanists who had evidently taken the oath of allegiance to the Queen, and were unmolested. The Romanists who refused the oath of allegiance (recusants as they were called) were active and numerous in the district. "On the 6th July, 1582, when the sexton came to ring the bell in the morning to the lecture at six o'clock he found in the church porch a seditious pamphlet which he shewed to Mr. Crowley the minister who delivered it to me immediately after the end of his sermon (Sig) Jo: Hammond." Dr. Hammond, who thus forwarded the pamphlet to the Secretary of State, was Commissary to the Bishop of London at the time, and resided in Cripplegate. Twelve years later, no fewer than twelve of these recusants from Golding Lane were either under close surveillance, or in close keeping in the Counter, Newgate or Finsbury prisons. One of their haunts is thus described: "In Mrs. Rigsbys house in Old Street behind Golden Lane there is a vault under the stairs going up to a chamber where two or three may be hid and a place on the top of the stairs where they can take up the boards to go down to the vault."

The three following extracts from the Middlesex Session Rolls refer to the same class of individuals:—

1598-9.—41st year of Queen Elizabeth—

"Amongst Forty True Bills for not going to Church, Chapel, or any usual place of Common Prayer for six months, was one against Nicholas Crudde, late of Golding Lane, in St. Giles Without, Criplegate, yeoman."

1611-12.—9th year of King James I—

True Bill for the same offence—on the 24th June, and during the three months next following, against one "gentleman," and three "spinsters," and later on another case of a "yeoman," and again of six more—all of Criplegate.

1620-1.—18th year of King James I—

—— "Recognizances to appear at next Sessions of the Peace for Middlesex, then and there for doying worshipp at Tyborne, and denyinge the oath of allegiance."

Notwithstanding the state of the parish above described, the great number of poor house-holders therein (according to returns made, in

1595 as many as 466 needed relief, being second on the list for the whole city), and the statement of a letter writer a few years later, that, "there is more elbow room, but scant better air than in Little Britain," many noblemen and gentlemen selected Cripplegate for their town residences, whose country homes in 1595 were in "Essex, Somerset, Cambridge, Kente, Northampton, Hartford, Gloucester, Lincolne, Norfolk and Sussex." At this time numbers of minstrels lived in the Parish: probably the Fortune and Red Bull Playhouses might have caused their residence here. During the last 20 years of this century over 40 are referred to in the Registers. Brewing also was a great trade in the Parish, over 70 brewers, exclusive of brewers' servants, are referred to during the same time. That great and noble man Sir Humphrey Gilbert also lived here, as is testified by a letter dated Feb. 27, 1583, and addressed from his house in Redcross Street, to Walsingham, Secretary of State to Queen Elizabeth, wherein he states "his reason why he cannot comply with Her Majesty's solicitude for him to stay at home from the personal execution of his intended discovery," "he is sanguine of success and willing to be opposed by all the best navigators and cosmographers of the realm." "The extreme winter weather alone had delayed him." How the Queen was prevailed on to grant his request, and allow him to set out on his ill-fated expedition, which was to settle Newfoundland and search the southern coast of America, and how, after many mutinies and desertions of his men, and loss of several ships, he re-embarked on the Squirrel, a little vessel of only 10 tons, and in company with two others only, the Delight and the Golden Hind, set sail for England, to be caught in a terrific storm off the Azores—is well known—his memorable words, "Be of good heart, my friends: we are as near Heaven by sea as by land," will not soon be forgotten. The end has been graphically described by Hayes, a member of the expedition:—

"The same Monday about twelve of the clock, or not long after, the frigate (the Squirrel) being ahead of us in the Golden Hind, suddenly her lights went out and withal our watch cried, 'The General was cast away,' which was true, for in that moment the frigate was devoured and swallowed up by the sea."

Cripplegate is honoured by such a man having lived in her midst, and one can readily picture a friendship existing between him and Sir Martin Frobisher (before mentioned as being buried here) who had sailed the same seas before him. It was to men of their character and to their

example, that the noble public spirit displayed by all classes during the glorious reign of Queen Elizabeth is due. We find the men of Cripplegate forward in doing their duty in all good works, especially in helping their poorer fellow-parishioners, for from this time the majority of the Charities for which the Parish is noted, are dated. Many monuments, such as those of Busby, Langley, Day and Mason are placed on the walls of the Church, commemorating the men and their work (*see* Monuments).

Their confidence in the Vicars and Churchwardens must have been great, as many gifts were made such as follows :—

In 1603, there was given the Vicar and Churchwardens for their sole use an “orchard.” No trust is mentioned.

The commencement of the seventeenth century saw great improvements in the vicinity of the Church. During the Mayoralty of Sir Leonard Halliday (A.D. 1605), the Moor was laid out in pleasant gravelled walks and planted on all sides with rows of trees, at the large outlay of £5,000, and became a fashionable rendezvous for the nobility and gentry living in the parish, and the adjoining district of Aldersgate; the Moor Ditch, however, was a constant source of trouble and danger to health; in 1603, we find an order “that the Moor Ditch be cleaned, and the expense divided between Middlesex and the City.” The northern part of the parish, about Redcross and Whitecross Streets, was being rapidly covered with houses inhabited by respectable traders. There were several ale and beer brewers who gave largely to the Parish charities; bell and general metal foundries were also in full operation. The gold and silver thread industry, too, was largely cultivated. Fifty years later “Milton” had two of his daughters taught the trade, “to enable them to support themselves if required to do so.” The estimates of the number of the population at this time are very varied, but there were probably not less than 10,000 persons in the whole district now known as St. Giles, Cripplegate, and St. Luke’s, Middlesex, but then designated respectively the Freedom and the Lordship parts of Cripplegate.

Returning to the church itself, in June, 1612, an entry in the Churchwardens’ accounts of Sworder’s gifts, shows that “£50 was taken out of Sworder’s money in the chest in the Quest House, and given to the Churchwardens for the New Year, to be employed in building a gallery to the Church,” and again in 1623, according to Stow (without whose writings the early history of Cripplegate and its Church would have been

impossible) "all the roof over the chancel was on the outside repaired, and in the inside very curiously clouded," and again "in the years of our Lord 1624 and 1626, the two side galleries were built, very fair and spacious," and "in the year of our Lord 1629, the steeple being much decayed was repaired, all the four spires (standing in the four towers at the four corners of it) taken down: and with new and very substantial timber work rebuilt, and with lead fresh cast new covered; every one of these spires being enlarged something in the compass, a great deal in height, but most in their stately, eminent and graceful appearance. In the midst of these, where there was none before, gracing and being graced by them, was a very fair turret erected; the head of it (which much overpeered these spires) covered with lead, as also the props that support it: this and the spires having every one a cross with very fair vanes upon them. The charge of all this I could not certainly get (1633), and would not uncertainly speak it, but the greatness of the things speaks the cost to be great, all being the sole charge of the parishioners." Unfortunately no illustration of this turret can be found.

From 1629 to 1658 no information is forthcoming as to repairs; probably in consequence of the unsettled times for the nation generally, nothing was done, but in the latter year the middle aisle was relaid and the other aisles repaired with eight-inch coloured tiles; further repairs and "beautifyings" were effected in 1660, 1662, and 1669; more extensive alterations in 1672, and the tower heightened in 1682.

Before giving an account of these, it is necessary to give some idea of the parish as affected by the troubles of the Civil Wars, the Protectorate of Oliver Cromwell, the Great Plague, and Fire of London. During the wars between King Charles and his Parliament, when both parties were in the field, the Cripplegate men seem to have taken their full share in helping to maintain the liberty of their country; we find them drilling in their churchyard, preparatory to joining the Parliamentary Forces. In 1647 the Committee of the Militia of London offer to assist the Parliament in case of danger of a riot, with the aid of "a trayned band in Cripplegate Churchyard." Entries such as the following are significant of the coming troubles:—

1627.—"Return of Alderman Heylin for the Ward of Cripplegate, of such as refused to pay the 'loan' (?) or have removed, or have paid elsewhere."

The names of such as say they have paid elsewhere, but show no discharge, are given:—

"Kent.—Sir Wm. Twysden £50 land."

"Middlesex.—The Lady Bartley £20 land."

"Norfolk.—*Sir Roger Townsend £30 "

"Essex.—Seargent Bramstone £15 "

1627.—"Names of those who, with reference to the 'loan,' have conformed or referred themselves."

1640.—"A list of inhabitants who are able to 'lend' to the King."

Ecclesiastical troubles were arising, dissent from the doctrines of the Established Church was growing in intensity, and many extravagant ideas were promulgated and practised—*see* the following Extract :—

1639.—"A man named Eaton, a cracked-brained enthusiast, died in the parish, and was buried by some 200 Brownists and Anabaptists, in Bethlem Burying Ground." A memorandum addressed to a Mr. Alsop (a printer in the parish?) states that "they, like so many 'Bedlams,' cast the corpse in, and with their feet instead of spades, cast and thrust in the mould till the grave was almost full; they then paid the gravemaker for his pains, who told them he must fetch a minister, but they said he might spare his labours." A Mr. Alsop, Printer (of Grub Street), was, in 1649, bound over in £300, and two sureties of £300 each, "not to print any seditious or unlicensed bookes or pictures, nor suffer his presses to be used for any such purpose," and at the same time, John Clowes, also of Grub Street, and Adam Hare, of Redcross Street, were bound over to the same effect. In 1653 an order was made to the Keeper of the Gatehouse to take into custody John Clowes, for printing a libellous paper called "A charge against the Lord-General."

Religious intolerance here, as elsewhere, prevailed.

1635.—"Several persons from Cripplegate appeared before the Court of High Commission, and were admonished to appear that day fortnight. It was referred to Dr. Goudge to certify on that day what hope there was of their being reclaimed from their schismatical opinions."

1635.—"A cutler of St. Giles Without Cripplegate, was monished to answer new additional, and to be examined before next Court day, or else to be attached and re-committed."

In the year 1651 the Parish must have witnessed a scene of great excitement. At a review of the Trained bands in Moorfields, a copy of

* In 1586 the mansion of Roger Townsend was among the garden houses of Redcross Street. He was knighted with Frobisher, Hawkins and others, during the fight with the Spanish Armada in 1588. The marriage of a La: Jane Townesend is entered in 1597. If this Sir Roger be the same, he must now have been an old man.

the King's summons to the Corporation of London was burnt by the Common Hangman at the head of every regiment.

Rulers in those times had so much to think about in maintaining their authority, that they could not trouble themselves to consider such a small item as the health of their subjects; and although the condition of this parish had been greatly improved during the early part of the seventeenth century, the sanitary conditions therein left very much to be desired; no regular drainage or scavenging was dreamt of, the consequence being that the Plague was constantly raging with more or less virulence. In 1635 we read that the "Lord Mayor and the Council appointed the Commissioners of Sewers, and Inigo Jones, the King's Surveyor-General of Works, to make inquiry concerning the great annoyance caused by the 'Moorditch,' and to agree upon a remedy." There seems to have been a flood-gate of the main sewer which, when overcharged with land water, discharged itself into the Moorditch, which then became full, and a fruitful source of infection. The remedy suggested was to make from the Moorditch to the Minories a large strong vaulted sewer, 4 feet in breadth, and 6 feet in height, and to fill up entirely the Moorditch. It is not to be wondered at that the Plague scourge was unusually severe in Cripplegate. At this time (1636) there were no less than 2,491 burials on the register book for the year, being three times the number for either the preceding or succeeding years; and, as showing the terror and inhuman conduct of the time, we give an order of the Privy Council to the Lord Mayor of London, 1636, "It is a common practice among the Dutch and French Congregations to send consolators from house to house, to visit the sick; they continue to send these to houses infected with Plague. That there be no such visits made where the Plague is, and if they will not forbear, he is to take care that such consolators be shut up in the houses infected."

In spite of this severe outbreak, the suggested remedy, a new sewer, was still, in 1636, not effected. The Privy Council again thought it time to bestir themselves, and in September, 1638, addressed themselves to the Lord Mayor, thus:—"His Majesty and His Board have been acquainted by Lord Cottington that the King's pleasure, being by him signified to you, for removing the great annoyance that is given by the Moor Ditch, you undertook that it should be set in hand and finished in the time of your Mayoralty—there being a good sum of money levied for that work above two years since. Complaint has again been made that there has been nothing done, but that the annoyance has grown to be

more noisome. We are to let you know that His Majesty takes very ill your great neglect in performance of his commands and your own engagement, albeit we cannot hope you can now absolutely remove that annoyance in the time of your government of the City, yet you are forthwith to cause an entrance to be made, and to put it in a good way to be finished, that His Majesty and the Board be no more troubled."

The Ditch encircling the city wall has been spoken of as "a running stream," but constant work was needed to keep it so, and after the last serious attempt in 1595, when, though two-fifteenths were granted for that purpose, the part between Bishopsgate and Moorgate only was cleansed, the Cripplegate portion being allowed gradually to fill up.

In the 1633 Edition of Stow, the site of the ditch from Moorgate to Cripplegate is said to be "partly occupied by gardens, partly built on."

In addition to these great sources of danger, the parish must have been in a generally unhealthy and unsanitary condition, as is evidenced by the fact that from the Lord Mayor to the humblest citizen all were alike negligent of their duties. *See* the following, from an extract of the Court Roll of the Manor of Finsbury, now St. Luke:—

1636.—"John Downhame, clerke, dwelling near Bunhill Fields, presented for keeping swine to the common annoyance of His Majesty's subjects, and amerced 3*s.* 4*d.*" There are many entries such as this. And again—

"Reginald Foster, of Redcross Street, presented for suffering seven of his houses in Whitecross Street to lie worn and ruinate to the harbouringe of rogues and vagabonds; also amerced."

At the same Court we find the "Lord Maior and Aldermen of the Citie of London presented for not repairing the highway leading from the pound belonging to the said Manor, and for not repairing the said pound, and the stocks, and cage, and for not maintaining a pillorie and ducking-stool there as it ought to be and amerced."

The shop-keepers, too, seem to have been lacking in honesty, especially chandlers, of whom there were many in the parish—as we find at this same presentment, seven in Whitecross Street, one in Golden Lane, and one in Chiswell Street, fined for using light weights; and nine bakers were fined for the same offence.

The same Roll says that four persons from White Cross Street and six from Old Street were fined for keeping swine. Some of these aggravated their offence by refusing to open their doors to the beadle. One person was fined for not cleansing the common sewer; ten in Whitecross Street

for not amending their pavements. One was summoned for not carrying away the soil cast out by her tenants dwelling in Cocke Yard, near the Cage in Old Street.

The Roll concludes with this Manorial regulation:—"All and every person and persons dwelling in said Manor suffering their hogs or swine to range the streets within the limits of the said Manor are amerced in 12*d.*—6*d.* to the scavenger who drives them to the pound and 6*d.* poundage for every hogge or swine so straying."

Taking into consideration the dirty and unwholesome habits of the majority of the inhabitants, and the filthy state of the courts and alleys that then closely intersected the parish, one does not wonder at the Plague making it a stronghold. Many precautions were taken against the spread of the disease, but in those "good old times" the greatest preventative of all—personal and general cleanliness—was little thought of, and less practised.

The Parish Registers tell a gruesome tale of the many Plague years. In 1603 there were 2,879 burials; again in 1625, 3,570; in 1636, 2,491; in 1641, 1,650; and from 1654 to 1664 more than 1,000 burials each year, culminating in 1665 with a total of a little under 8,000. Above all the other City Parishes, the following description of the terror inspired by these awful visitations might be applied to Cripplegate. It is taken from an old publication entitled "The wonderful year of 1603, wherein is shewed the Picture of London lying sicke of the Plague."

"Never did the English nation behold so much blacke worne as there was at her funeral (Queen Elizabeth). It was then put on to try if it were fit; for the great day of mourning was set downe in the booke of Heaven to be held afterwards." After describing the night, the writer says, "the tedious minutes of the night stretch oute the sorrowes of ten thousand. It is now daye. Let us look forth and try what consolation rises with the sun. Not any, Not any; for before the jewel of the morning be fully set in silver, hundred hungry graves stand gaping; and every one of them (as at a breakfast) hath swallowed downe ten or eleven lifeless carcases. Before dinner in the same gulfe are twice as many more devoured, and before the sun takes rest those numbers are doubled."

This vivid description of the Plague of 1603 must be magnified three fold to give the full terror of the outbreak of 1665.

The first cases in Cripplegate occurred on June 2nd, when a man died in Goswell Street and another in Old Street; the number of cases gradually increased, there being 191 burials in June, 1,346 in July, 3,556



in August, 1,757 in September, and 412 in October. The entries of the burials in July take up 71 pages of the Register Book, those in August 101 pages, and in September 54 pages. They are faultlessly written (*see specimen page*), evidently at some subsequent time from rough copies made at the time of burial.

When the Plague was at its height, in the month of August, as mentioned, no fewer than 3,556 entries are given—by far the greater number as dying of the Plague—and comparing this with a register of only 74 deaths in the corresponding month of the next year, the contrast is very startling. In all, nearly 5,000 deaths are recorded as from the Plague, and 3,000 from other causes during the year, and there is every reason to believe that of the latter many were also Plague cases, and also that numbers were buried either in the Churchyard or the Pest House, or in Bunhill Fields without any entry being made—the terror and overwhelming confusion of the time being so great. The Register Book shows that over 180 persons were buried *in* the Church during this year. The rest (with a few solitary exceptions) are entered as buried either “above” or “below,” that is, in the Pest House Burying ground, or in the one surrounding the Church. The number of burials in this comparatively small space, with the 1,196 loads of earth mentioned below, fully accounts for the great height of the Churchyard above the floor of the Church and the neighbouring streets.

The Vicar (Dr. Pritchett) fled to the country. No Vestry Meeting was held between March, 1665, and September of the same year. Three of the Churchwardens died—two of them and the Parish Clerk in the month of August. The Sexton, Ferdinand Sotheran, died on 5th July, and it was not until September, when the disease had somewhat moderated, that his successor, Meacham, was appointed. The Vestry Minute says “that much damage and loss is daily occasioned by the lack of the Sexton.” Very probably the majority of the Vestrymen suffered the same fate, and there was no responsible official left to relieve the poor who escaped, or to carry on the ordinary work of the Parish.

The poor working class and shopkeepers suffered greatly, but they were not the only ones, for by reference to the burials in the Register Book we find entries of 41 in August, 62 in September, and 17 in October, described as gentlemen, gentlewomen, or children of such; thus showing that the well-to-do did not all run away from their “poorer neighbours.” Seven servants of Ralph Tasker, Deputy, died within these three months.

August 1665

J Anne Dani: of Roberta Chamberlin wid	Consid below	18
J Elizabeth Kelych wid	ylague below	15
J Anne wife of Charles Inge y ^r fe l ^{or}	ylague below	15
J Anne wife of Christopher Snijfen Cooper	ylague above	15
J Elizabeth Garb ^r f ^{or} to Mary Emmercy wid	ylague above	15
J John son of James Lamb weaver	ylague above	15
J John son of John Mastord glower	ffower above	15
J John son of John Mastord glower	Deoth above	15
J Mary Crimpholke a weaver	ylague above	15
J Anne Dani: of yester Dod tailor	ylague above	15
J Elizabeth wife of Edmund Souding porter	ylague above	18
J Elizabeth Dani: of Eliz. Examan wid	ylague above	19
J Elizabeth Carpenter	ylague above	15
J Bonij. son of Crowder	ylague above	15
J Gilbert Holton Carman	ylague below	15
J Thomas Hunt Smith	ylague above	15
J Thomas Lutter Currier	ylague above	15
J William son of Watkins porter	ylague above	15
J Mary Dani: of William Thimons butcher	Sto. St. above	15
J Paenard Crow bristlayer	Spotted below	15
J Quaberno Dani: of wid. Silman	Deeth above	15
J Anne f ^{or} to M ^r E Tailor butcher	Spotted above	15
J Margt wife of Tho. Hoild Seaman	ffower below	18
J Anne Dani: of John Snow	ylague above	18
J Anne Dani: of Stephen y ^r ettinger porter	yei: gals above	18
J Silvanus Baethle weaver	ylague above	18
J Anne wife of Robert M ^r edg	ylague above	18
J Wm son of Joseph Rath printer	ylague below	18
J Mary Seaman f ^{or} to Sebastian Bugg weaver	ylague above	18
J Margt Ingeam f ^{or} to John Edgo beaver	ylague below	18
J Tho. Bied f ^{or} to Miles Wilson doth	ffower above	18
J Edw. son of Edw. Robson f ^{or} f ^{or}	ylague above	18
J y ^r isfrida Dani: of Gabriell Snolmes	ylague above	18
J Mary Dani: of John Baber glower	ylague above	18
J Joseph Barbo weaver	ylague above	18

NOTE.—If implies that the person died in the Freedom part of the Parish.

implies that the person died in the Lordship part of the Parish.

18 stands for the day of the month.

in August, 1,757 in September, and 412 in October. The entries of the burials in July take up 71 pages of the Register Book, those in August 101 pages, and in September 54 pages. They are faultlessly written (*see specimen page*), evidently at some subsequent time from rough copies made at the time of burial.

When the Plague was at its height, in the month of August, as mentioned, no fewer than 3,556 entries are given—by far the greater number as dying of the Plague—and comparing this with a register of only 74 deaths in the corresponding month of the next year, the contrast is very startling. In all, nearly 5,000 deaths are recorded as from the Plague, and 3,000 from other causes during the year, and there is every reason to believe that of the latter many were also Plague cases, and also that numbers were buried either in the Churchyard or the Pest House, or in Bunhill Fields without any entry being made—the terror and overwhelming confusion of the time being so great. The Register Book shows that over 180 persons were buried *in* the Church during this year. The rest (with a few solitary exceptions) are entered as buried either “above” or “below,” that is, in the Pest House Burying ground, or in the one surrounding the Church. The number of burials in this comparatively small space, with the 1,196 loads of earth mentioned below, fully accounts for the great height of the Churchyard above the floor of the Church and the neighbouring streets.

The Vicar (Dr. Pritchett) fled to the country. No Vestry Meeting was held between March, 1665, and September of the same year. Three of the Churchwardens died—two of them and the Parish Clerk in the month of August. The Sexton, Ferdinand Sotheran, died on 5th July, and it was not until September, when the disease had somewhat moderated, that his successor, Meacham, was appointed. The Vestry Minute says “that much damage and loss is daily occasioned by the lack of the Sexton.” Very probably the majority of the Vestrymen suffered the same fate, and there was no responsible official left to relieve the poor who escaped, or to carry on the ordinary work of the Parish.

The poor working class and shopkeepers suffered greatly, but they were not the only ones, for by reference to the burials in the Register Book we find entries of 41 in August, 62 in September, and 17 in October, described as gentlemen, gentlewomen, or children of such; thus showing that the well-to-do did not all run away from their “poorer neighbours.” Seven servants of Ralph Tasker, Deputy, died within these three months.

The variety of the occupations of those who died is curious. In two days in August the following occur:—glover, hat band maker, servant, button maker, throster, coppersmith, wiredrawer, scavenger, gardener, attorney, glazier, haberdasher, soldjer, looking-glass maker, leather dresser, plasterer, upholster, inckhorne maker, instrument maker, sugar baker, smith, broaker, cooper, clothworker, threadman, cordwainer, carman, porter, victualler, weaver, labourer, bricklayer, tailor, sawyer, butcher, brazier, joiner, carpenter, mariner, seaman, baker, grocer, fishmonger, turner, tobacco cutter, beame maker, pin maker, stocking weaver, callender, ivory turner, mealman, water bearer, dyer, stationer.

People were loath to allow that the Plague was in their houses. The Parish Clerk, Nicholas Pyne, is entered as dying of "Dropsy," and singularly enough his wife is entered as dying the same day of the same disease. (Smyth mentions her as dying *ex peste*.) One of the Churchwardens is entered as dying of fever, and on the same day one of his daughters as of the Plague.

In Richard Smyth's "Obituary" many names occur of people known to him, inhabitants of Cripplegate, who died from the Plague. From the middle of June till the end of October, 1665, he gives 75 names, of whom 58 are mentioned as "ex peste." The following are a few of the more curious:—

July 5, 1665.—"Ferdinando Sothern, sexton of Cripplegate parish, died, having not lyen sick above a day or two, and so suspected to have died of y^e sickness, but not returned."

August 20.—"Nell our maids mother in Tenter Alley newly married died ther, ex peste."

Aug. 20.—"M^{is}. Pyne wife of M^r. Pyne our parish clerke of S^t. Giles, Cripplegate, ex peste."

Septeb. 2.—"Glover the smith at London Wall and his wife (about this time both) ex peste."

Sep. 2.—M^{is}. Durant of Cripplegate parish our pew fellow ex peste."

September 6.—"Webster, y^e old drunken cobbler, under my tennant Benning's stall in Coleman Street, ex peste."

September 21.—"Dr. Bird (as commonly called), to whom I lent 20s. (a desperat debtor), died ex peste."

September 27.—"Goodwife Hunt, the cobbler's wife, sis^r to goodwife Jones, y^e milkwoman."

October 3.—"Mrs. Allen, y^e little crooked woman, once dwelt in Whites Alley."

October 27.—“Mr. Knight in y^e postern, strongwater man, Lieut. of our traine band in y^e Ward, died this night, ex peste.”

September 16.—“Mr. Cherry, rope-maker, our honest neighbor of Morefields, died this morning, ex peste.”

Then again occur two entries of deaths, evidently considered worth specially mentioning as not dying from the Plague, viz. :

October 3.—“Mrs. Whatman, at her daughter Peachey’s house, not of y^e sicknesse.”

September 16.—“Old John Wharton, of Guildhall, died of old age.”

Amidst so many entries of deaths, we find in June, only 9 marriages, in July, 7 ; August, 2 ; September, 3 ; and October, 7.

In 1631 the population of the Freedom was found to be 6,445, and allowing for the natural increase in the number of inhabitants, and for strangers settling in the parish, the number at the commencement of 1665 in both Freedom and Lordship, may be estimated at 20,000, and nearly one-half of these were dead and buried before the close of the year, such a fact alone will show the awfulness of the visitation. To add to the horror of the time, and notwithstanding an increase in the size of the Churchyard in 1662, when ground was added near Crowders Well, and the new burying ground at the Pest House opened, the Churchyards were absolutely over-crowded ; the provision for even the ordinary number of interments was not more than sufficient, so that the bodies of those dying of the Plague were placed only just below the surface of the ground—a fact in itself sufficient to account for an increase in the epidemic, and hardly needing the following extract, from the Churchwardens’ accounts, to enforce it:—“Paid George Day for fetching heath to lay at the Churchyard doors, and for carrying rubbish” (into the Church) “to lay under the pews, 12s.”; with a repetition of similar entry a little later on—presumably with a view of preventing the smell from becoming too offensive. Another cause of the immense number of deaths was no doubt due to the proximity of Crowders Well, and of the pump in front of the Church, to the over-full Churchyard.

The following entries in the accounts show the means used to deodorize and to disinfect the Church and Quest House—

For fire in the Quest House and frankincense in the Church, 4 6.

For pitch, rozin and frankincense, 1 6.

For Rosemary, Bayes, Holly and Ivy, 6 8.

In September, 1665, orders were given by the Vestry “to raise the lower part of the Churchyard 2 feet higher with earth,” which significant

order was duly carried out, the Churchwardens' account for 1665-6 giving details:—

“Paid Mr. Johnson and Mr. Alliston for bringing into the Lower Churchyard 1,196 loades of earth, £60 1s. 6d.; paid to the labourers for spreading it over several times, £4 17s. 6d.

The necessity for providing more ground for burials was again considered by the Vestry, and in the minutes for January 16th, 1666, the following occurs:—

“Whereas in the last visitation of the Plague wherewith for the sins of this nation Almighty God hath been pleased to visit this City of London, with the parishes adjacent, and other parts of this realm, and in a special manner this our parish of St. Giles Without Cripplegate, whereby such multitudes have died that our churchyards and burying-places are now almost filled with dead corpses, that not any more can scarcely be buried there, to the intent, therefore, that we may have more ground — certain members of the Vestry be appointed a committee to treat for the purchase of houses and grounds in Churchyard Alley, adjoining the Church, to enlarge the existing burial-ground.”

And again, in the same book, for October, 1666, we read:—

“Ordered that the Churchwardens doe report to the next Vestry how much ground in the alley by Crowder's Well is now out of lease, and may be forthwith added to the Lower Churchyard.” This was done, and the portion that now lies between the old City Wall on the west, and the houses in Well Street (then Crowder's Well Alley) was added.

After this time it became necessary to forbid any interments in the churchyard for seven years, and not any too soon, as before stated. For a time the dead were probably taken to Bunhill Fields burying grounds; burials, however, soon recommenced, both in the church and the churchyard, and continued down to our own time, ceasing only in 1853, when Lord Palmerston's Intramural Act came into operation.

The other great catastrophe of the time, the Great Fire, which destroyed so many of our City churches, spared St. Giles', no doubt on account of the intervention of the City Wall, and the width of the churchyard without it, but the entry of £29 5s. in the Parish accounts for re-glazing part of the windows, probably broken by the heat from the fire, seems to suggest that it had a very narrow escape. The fear must have been very great that the Church would suffer the same fate that many others did, as the following entry fully indicates:—

1666.—“Paid for carrying the cloath and the plate away when the fire was and bringing it back 2s. 6d.” The Parish Fire Engine evidently took part in fighting the fire, and was injured in the fray, as we find two entries in the month of the Fire :—

“For mending the Engine, Buckett and Hookes.” This was a temporary repair, as later in the same month (September) it was ordered “That the Engine be forthwith mended and kept in good repair continually.”

St. Giles’ Parish formed a refuge for the people fleeing from the City, many of whom took up their abode there, and thus to some extent permanently repaired the depopulation caused by the recent Plague.

Reverting to the Church itself, we find some slight alterations were made to the fabric in 1660, and amongst other entries in the Vestry Minute Book, the following is significant of the revulsion of feeling that was running through the country in favour of a Monarchy (with corresponding ecclesiastical charges), and in which Cripplegate thus early takes its part :—

1660.—Paid Leonard Frier “for painting the Kinges Armes in the Church, £10 15s. 0d. Canvas for do., 9s. Frame for do., 10s.”

This Leonard Fryer was not above executing meaner work than painting “Kinges Arms,” for in 1662 occurs another entry, “Paid to Leonard Fryer for painting and gilding the cover of the font, for laying the engine in oil, and for work about the christening pews, and the Church-yard Gate, £5 5s. 6d.,” the latter, work on the Gate that faces Redcross Street, in gilding and painting the emblems of Mortality on the upper parts, still there, and in good repair.

In April, 1662, the following entry occurs, indicating a return from the small Christening font of 1650, to the “ould font lined with lead” then removed :—Resolved “that the ould font to baptize children in that hath been removed several years past, shall be sett in the ould place where it was placed and used tyme out of mind.”

In 1681 the Vicarage House was rebuilt at the expense of the Parish, (*see* notes respecting the “four shoppes,” page 178).

In 1682, the more extensive alterations and repairs previously referred to were commenced. These consisted first in taking down the upper portion of the tower, with the pinnacles so minutely described by Stow as having been erected in 1629, and in adding first fifteen feet of red brick-work, and then surmounting this with what has been described as “a low cupola ending in a pinnacle, with, at the angles, corresponding

cupolas of a smaller size. Upon the platform is a raised circular arcade of wood, covered with a low pyramidal roof, forming an open turret." This upper part of the tower and the turret thus described have never been altered, and with the exception of small repairs, are now in precisely the same form as when first built. The galleries built in 1624-6 were enlarged, the one in the north aisle at the expense of a parishioner, and that in the south aisle at the Parish expense.

The Vestry Minutes, in reference to the above repairs, run as follows:—

1663.—"Paid for setting up the font, £2."

"Received for the little font, £1 10s."

1663.—"For partition of wainescott and workmanshipp where the christening font was in the middle ile, £1 12s. 6d.

Sept., 1668.—It was ordered "that diligent search be made concerning the repaires of the roof of the Church."

Mar., 1669.—The Churchwardens are ordered "to repair and amende the decayed and other things belonging to the roof and body of the Church."

Dec., 1671.—Ordered "that the defects of the body of the church be repaired, means for so doing to be raised by a general assessment on the Parish."

3rd Feb., 1672.—Paid "£50 towards repairs."

22nd Feb., 1672.—, "£50 ,, ,"

March, 1672.—Paid "the surveyor for looking after repairs, £15."

19th July, 1672.—Ordered that "the Churchwarden keep in his hands £80 of the grand account till the Freedom and the Lordship agree how to meet the account of the repairs of the Church."

Probably after these repairs of the interior were completed, the organ presented by Mrs. Charnock was introduced (*see* page 115).

July, 1673.—Ordered "that the Churchwardens doe take care to forthwith acquaint Mr. Stone (the Minister), that he doe forbear preaching on Thursdays and also to acquaint the Reader that he doe forbear reading of prayers for the space of one month for the forwarding of the workmen at work in the Church. To be put by the clerk of the Parish Church next Sunday.

4th July, 1674.—"The Churchwardens to try with surveyors for abatement on Church repairs billes."

20th Sept., 1682.—Ordered "that the steeple be raised 15 feet higher and new cased and a new clock and chimes made, a new frame for the bells, and a new gallery be forthwith built."

18th Aug., 1684.—“That Mr. John Bridges doe finish the steeple, within 2 months next ensuing as he hath begun already. The said Mr. Bridges to receive 2s. 6d. a yard beside allowance for the windows if they shall be done by him.”

Before proceeding to describe the further extensive alterations in the Church which were effected early in the eighteenth century, it will be as well to give an idea as to the (then) condition of the Parish and its inhabitants. Strype, in his edition of “Stow’s Survey” of 1720, mentions considerable improvement in Moorfields, as follows: “For the walks themselves, with the continual care of the city to have them in that comely and worthy manner maintained, I am certainly persuaded that our thankfulness to God being first truly performed they are no mean cause of renewing health and wholesome air to the city (Strype was right in his persuasion), and such an eternal honour thereto as time shall not be able to efface.”

Of the principal streets and thoroughfares of the Parish, the following is a brief *résumé*, according to the same authority:—

Fore Street, pretty broad and well inhabited.

Moor Lane, for the generality but meanly built and inhabited.

Grub Street, very long but indifferent to its houses and inhabitants, and sufficiently pestered with its courts and alleys.

Bridgewater Square. A very handsome open place with very good buildings.

John Evelyn in his “Discourse on Forest Trees,” published in 1662, says “that Bridgewater Square Gardens was celebrated for its orchard, and in the year that Newcastle was besieged (1644) produced such quantities of fruits as never was produced before or after that time.” This he attributes to “the decrease of smoke resulting from the scarcity of coal in the capital from that event.”

Barbican. A good broad street well inhabited by tradesmen, especially salesmen of apparel new and old.

Redcross Street. Wide, well built and inhabited. (In it there is a Dissenters’ Library, Dr. Williams’.)

Whitecross Street. A good place of great length; pretty well built and inhabited, but the part within the Ward goeth but little beyond Beech Lane, where the “City Posts” are set up.

Crowders Well Alley, of some note for its Well, which gives its name to the Alley. “The waters of this well are esteemed very good for sore eyes, to wash them with, and is said to be also very good to drink

for several distempers, and some say it is very good for men *in drink* to take this water, for it will allay the fumes and bring them to be *sober*."

Of the Church itself, he says "St. Giles Cripplegate is very large, as indeed it ought to be as belonging to so large and populous a Parish."

Fronting Redcross Street "was the Watch House where formerly stood a Watch Tower, called Burgh-Kenning, *i.e.*, Barbican, for the security of the city in those parts."

The "security" of Cripplegate was ensured as follows:—

"There are to watch at Cripplegate and at several other stands in divers places in this Ward every night a constable, a beadle, and forty watchmen within the walls and one constable, a beadle, and ninety watchmen in several places without the walls," the inhabitants all taking their share in this duty.

The official staff was comprised of "four constables and four scavengers." In 1737 a petition was presented to the Court of Aldermen and Common Council for leave to elect and return eight persons to serve as constables in this ward.

At this time Cripplegate Without was represented in the Common Council by one Deputy and two Common Councilmen.

The population in 1685 was estimated by Smythies (Curate, 1673–1705) at 30,000.

According to Malcolm, the population of the entire Parish (Freedom and Lordship districts), had in 1710 increased very largely, there being then a total of seven thousand one hundred families, and forty-two thousand six hundred persons resident therein, and considering the variety of religious doctrines circulated through the various forms of worship and services, it is not at all surprising to hear of the troubles of the Vicar, Dr. Bennet, a few years later.

From another source we gather that, in 1712, there were 3,913 houses, 2,600 of which were assessed, producing in that year £4,000, and there were upwards of six thousand persons employed in the manufacture of gold and silver thread, a trade which, to a small extent, survives in the Parish to this day.

The early part of the eighteenth century saw extensive alterations in the Church, testified by the following extracts from the Vestry Minute Book:—

In 1703 the galleries erected over the north and south aisles were connected by one at the west end, which was ordered "to be pewed out at the Parish charge."

(In August of the following year this gallery was ordered "to be forthwith pulled down, and a larger one put in its place.")

Feb., 1703-4.—The Vestry, "taking into consideration the complaint now made of the Church being extremely out of repair in the pewing thereof and otherwise," appoint a Committee "to forthwith take a view of what repairs are wanting in or about the said Church."

In March, 1703-4, the Committee appointed at the last Vestry to view the said Church as to the repairs thereof, having now reported "that they had viewed the same with proper workmen to assist them therein and that the pews in the body of the Church under the galleries and elsewhere were extremely out of repair," the Vestry order "that it be referred to the Committee to take a view also of what repairs are wanting in and about the said Church and to consult with proper workmen what the charge will be for making good such repairs and report." (57 Vestrymen present.) The Report was as follows:—

20 April, 1704.—"The charge for repairing the old pews and otherwise would amount to £435 or thereabouts and that it were better to demolish and remove the present pews, altar piece and pulpit (they being very old and rotten) and to have new in their stead." It was then ordered "that all the pews below in the said Church and the altar piece and pulpit be demolished and removed accordingly and that new pews and a new altar piece and pulpit be made and placed in their stead the Committee to discourse with the workmen about the prices, . . . and that an assessment of three single years according to the Poor Rate be granted and rated for the purposes afore mentioned."

On the 25th April, 1704, two years' rate pursuant to the resolution is passed by the Freedom Vestry, but in May, 1704, it is ordered "That three years' rate be levied" (the two years' rate ordered at the last Vestry not being sufficient to do the work), and that "subscriptions be taken before the said rate is made, and that those who subscribe be first acquainted with such rate."

In June, 1704, it is ordered "That three of the Church doores be pulled down and that there be new doores made larger in their stead and that they be done with all the expedition that may be," and "that the ceiling of the galleries be lathed and plastered and that there be two more lights made in the chancell."

On 19th June, 1704, it is ordered "That the Committee inspect the galleries in the Church and reparaire the pews there, or cause new pews to be made as they shall think reasonable."

On 28th June, 1704, it is ordered "That a new Vestry be made without a vault and that there be a door made at the west end of the Church next to the Armory House."

July, 1704.—"Mr. Cartwright proposed to do the altar within the rails with black and white marble at 2s. 6d. per foot, to cleane the marble steps at 5d. per foot with workmanship and polishing." It is ordered "that this proposal be accepted."

In September, 1704, it is ordered "That the Vestry Room be wainscotted with right good wainscott up to the top at 5s. 6d. per yard," and "that Mr. Robinson the elder, stonecutter, do make a marble font agreeable to the scheme now produced of right good veined clean marble, he having agreed to make the same for 16 guineas the said font to have twenty inches over."

In Oct., 1704, it is ordered "That the pews and linings of the walls in all the galleries in the Church be forthwith painted wainscot color"; and again, in the same month, it is ordered "that a crimson velvett cushion and border, with gold fringe and torsells, be provided by the Churchwardens for the pulpitt."

While these extensive alterations were in progress the congregation worshipped elsewhere, but we are not told where the "Chapple" was situated—possibly in one described in the Parish Clerk's Survey, 1732, as "an Episcopal Chapel or Tabernacle wherein is performed the service of the Church of England, which had been provided in Noble Street for the use of the people of the Parish."

In Jan., 1704-5, it is ordered "That there be presented to Mr. Walker's wife for her kindness in promoting our having the use of the 'Chapple,' a piece of plate of five guineas and two guineas in money to their servant."

In February, 1704-5.—Ordered . . . "to do the whole painting worke about the Altar and Moses and Aaron according as it is done in St. Bennet's, Grace Church Street, and Curtain and Glory according as it is done at St. Michael's Cornwell [!!] and to do the branch of the Iron Curtain Rod before the Organ, the flaming of the Candles upon the Altar with gold, and find their own scaffolding"; and on the day following ordered "forty guineas for doing this and gilding the carved work round the old Kinges armes in the middle of the chancell and find their own scaffolding."

13 April, 1705.—Ordered "that the same Committee do audit the accounts of the repairs and report with all convenient speed." The report follows, giving the total amount of expenditure for these repairs

(1703-5), including the cost of the new Organ (*see* page 117), and also of several new Bells, at £2,588 9s. 2d., the money being raised as under:—

IN FREEDOM.				IN LORDSHIP.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Raised by subscriptions ...	293	17	0	Raised by subscriptions ...	209	13	6
„ Church Rate in				„ Church Rate in			
Redcross Pre-				Old Street ...	200	10	6
cinct	431	12	3	„ do. Whitecross			
„ do., Whitecross	150	8	3	Street	280	19	1
„ „ Fore Streete	239	12	9	„ „ Golding Lane	201	17	6
„ „ Grub Street	196	17	9	„ „ Grub Street	423	17	6
Total ...	<u>£1,312</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>0</u>	Total ...	<u>£1,316</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>1</u>

The estimated cost for the altar piece and pulpit was £150. The entry in Minutes reads: Ordered, “that Mr. John Syms, joiner, do make altar piece and table work with a sweep rail thereto thirty-three feet round and two feet eight inches high, and a pulpit at the price of £150.” The actual amount paid is entered at £155.

A book, entitled “A New View of London,” published in 1708, gives a description of the altar piece and pulpit, and mentions that “the altar piece is very ornamental being as the pews and pulpit of right oak; it is finely carved, being adorned with 6 pilasters and entablments of the Corinthian order. The inter-columns are the Commandments done in gold letters on black, and the Lord’s Prayer and the Creed are in black on gold. Between the arches of the tables of the Commandments and under the cornice is a pelican with her wings displayed, and feeding her young with her own blood and above that is ‘God spake these words.’ Over the Lord’s Prayer are the words, ‘When ye pray, say,’ and over the other ‘The Apostles’ Creed,’ in large characters. And on pediments, over these, Moses and Aaron, the first holding in his hand a rod, and the second an incense pot; and on the acroters upon the cornice are seven golden candlesticks with flaming tapers and in the centre is a Book displayed above which is a cushion and mitre, supported by two Cupids. The carved work has curious ornaments.” This style of adornment was fashionable at the time, several City Churches being similarly treated. This altar piece remained until 1790, when various alterations were made.

From the same source is the short account following:—“The pulpit is of fine wainscot neatly carved and finnied, adorned with an entablature and pediments and having enrichments of vases, cherubims, palm-branches, fruit, etc., done in relievo”; but this description does not do full justice to the beauty of design and exquisite execution of the

carved work. The cost has been already quoted, and also the name of the contractor, but unfortunately the name of the artist cannot be traced. Many think that it is the work of Grindling Gibbons; if not, it must have been done by a pupil who very closely followed his master's style. The pulpit was originally much higher than it is now, with a sounding board suspended above. The dove which now ornaments the cover of the font was taken from this board.

In reference to the Church itself, the same book says:—"The roof of the Church is flat; that part over the middle ile is neatly ceiled with timber; that part over the altar is painted nebulous and another part between the two former is painted in pannels or quadrangles of white and veined marble."

After renewing the interior of the Church, the Vestry, in 1715, turn their attention to the exterior, evidently not before it was very necessary.

March, 1714-15.—Ordered, "That the pavement before the great door of the Church be made good and the defects about the Church be made good where 'it rains in,' and 'that a Church rate be made to pay debts relating to the Church, and the Churchwardens to apply to Docters Commons for an order.'"

As the sum of £222 was debited for these repairs, the "defects" it would seem were somewhat serious. Again, in September, 1721, it was ordered by the Vestry "that the sum of £340 be raised for repairing the Church," and two months later the sum is increased to £600, and again shortly afterwards, evidently after a report is made that still more money will be required, the Vestry appoint a Committee, with full power to carry out the work, the total cost to be reported when the repairs are completed; this was done, and on January 28, 1722, it was ordered by the Vestry "that the workmen's and other persons' bills relating to the repairs of the Church be inspected, settled, and reported by the same Committee that were formerly appointed to take care of such repairs." On February 25, 1722, the list of amounts of bills owing are reported as "new, £1,261 17s. 7d., and old, £222 1s. 7d." Some additional expenses must have been incurred, as we find on October 12, 1722, "that the Committee formerly appointed to order the repairs in and about the Church now report the work done and the severall workmen's bills for doing thereof amount in the whole to £1,575, or thereabouts," and it is ordered, "that a rate be forthwith made to raise the sum of £1,600 to pay off the said bills and other contingent charges *that may be occasioned by such said repairs.*" Although the aggregate sum spent on

repairs from 1650 to 1750 was large, the chief part of it was expended on the interior of the Church—the galleries, pews, fittings, etc. The fabric of the building, being substantially built, needed no material work expended upon it. The accompanying view may be taken as an exact appearance of the south-west aspect of the Church from 1682 till nearly the end of the eighteenth century.



ST. GILES' CHURCH, CRIPPLEGATE, 1682-1790 (south-west aspect).

(From an old print.)

A few more extracts follow as to further repairs, etc., later on, which tell their own tale—

March 7, 1764.—Ordered, “That repairs in the Church be done with all convenient speed.”

April 6, 1764.—Ordered, “That the palisadoes which enclose the Christening pew being rather inconvenient and an incumbrance be removed.”

——— Ordered, “That the Surveyors plans for alterations are approved, and that in addition two doors are to be hung up at the end of the middle aisle and to turn back against the Churchwardens' and

Sidesmens' pews, and to be constantly kept shut unless in time of Divine Service."

July 16, 1764.—Ordered, "That £300 be paid to the workmen and £1,000 borrowed rubbish to be taken away occasioned in repairs to the Church."

Jan. 15, 1766.—Ordered, "That Mr. Muller as surveyor, be paid the sum of £100 for repairs to the Church and all other Parish surveying to this time."

May 21, 1766.—Ordered, "That the Sexton be paid £20 for his pains and trouble in cleansing the Church after the late repairs, and for his expense and disbursements on that account."

June 5, 1771.—Ordered, "That there be made a wainscott screen within the north-east door of the Church under the direction of Dr. Nicholls." This screen stood until the removal of the Organ to the chancel in 1869.

Aug. 27, 1772.—Ordered, "That the windows in the bell loft be boarded up as high as is necessary, and the lubber hoarding there be taken down and replaced more horizontal."

Jan. 26, 1774.—Ordered, "That £300 be borrowed on Life Annuities for defraying the expenses of new bells and repairing the belfry."

Sept. 15, 1779.—Ordered, "That the turret in the Church steeple be put into good and sufficient repair so soon as conveniently may be."

May, 1790.—Ordered, "That the old roof over the middle aisle be taken off and a new roof be added covered with copper and the side walls to the same be lowered and new windows introduced, to be done by public competition. This minute was at next Vestry meeting ordered to be discharged. However, in September of the same year, it was ordered 'that the roof be extended 27 feet eastward and a wall and parapet be built and four windows fixed.'"

Dec., 1790.—Ordered, "That the great window at the east end of the Church be glazed."

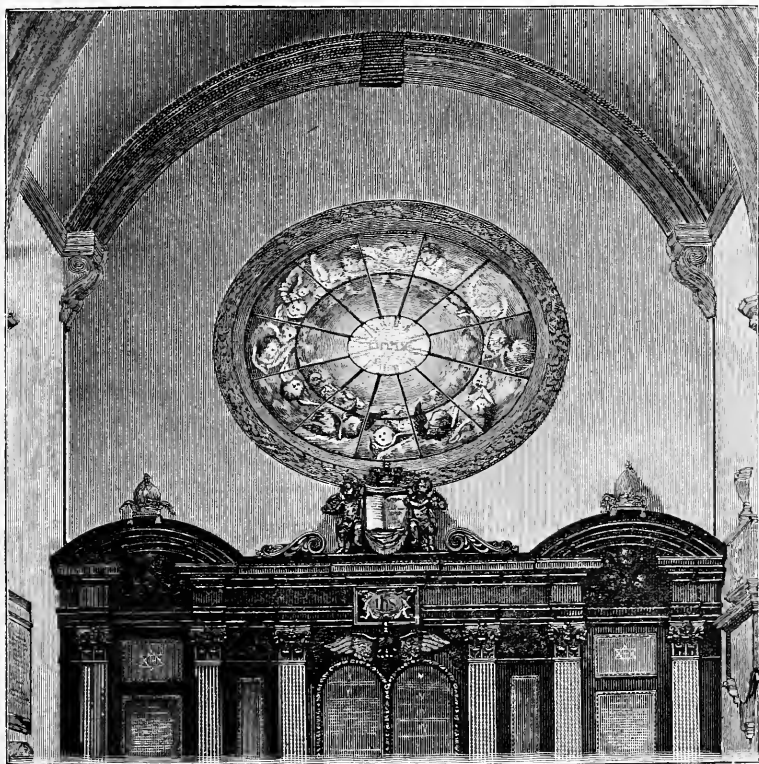
Feb., 1791.—Ordered, "That a glory and cherubs in stained glass be put in the window over the altar to cost 250 guineas."

The King's Arms, six feet wide, are ordered to be carved and gilt and placed in the Church, to cost £22; the old King's Arms to be given to Mr. Robert Horne. Those were placed over the chancel arch, but have since been removed, and are now placed over the Tower Arch.

The whole cost of the alteration in 1790-1 was reported in January, 1792, to amount to £3,603 14s. od.

As will be seen by the extracts from the minutes of the Vestry just given, very material alteration was made in the fabric of the Church by the introduction of four additional windows in the clerestory, two in each side, with a corresponding considerable extension in the length of the roof of the middle aisle of the Church, and a decrease in the length of the chancel. This fact should entirely quash

1335260



ALTAR PIECE AND WINDOW IN ST. GILES' CHURCH, CRIPPLEGATE, 1888.

the many doubts as to the spot not now being in the chancel where Milton's remains were laid to rest. By the entry in the Register it is clear that he was buried in the Chancel. The engraved stone opposite the fifth arch which now marks the approximate position, would have been close to the original chancel, which, at the time this entry was made, began from this column. How the doubt arose is therefore now satisfactorily explained. The following are a few of the entries concerning additional alterations:—

Aug. 8, 1792.—Ordered, “That the Creed, the Lord’s Prayer, and the Ten Commandments, wrote in gold letters on a black ground, be put up at the Communion place instead of those wrote in black letters on a gold ground,” and “that the remainder of the sum of £262 be paid for the stained glass which has been put up and fixed at the great east window of the Church, over the altar.”

Sept. 19, 1792.—Ordered, “That the Lord’s Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments lately taken down at the altar when the present were put up, be given to Mr. Thomas Strong (Vestry Clerk).”

The main features of the Altar piece of 1704 seem to have been preserved, and a Royal Crown in the centre, over the Book, to have taken the place of the Mitre. The representations of Moses and Aaron (if we may judge from the engraving on page 38) were still left in their place. They were removed in 1858, having become so indistinct that an old inhabitant of the Parish says “no one could tell what the figures meant.”

The Altar piece as it stands at present, as shown on the preceding page, is made of oak, finely carved, with fruit and flower ornaments. It has six Pilasters of the Corinthian order, and three Entablements. The Entablements contain the Commandments, the Lord’s Prayer and the Creed, written in gold letters on a dark ground. Above the centre entablature is a Pelican feeding her young, and over the two outer tablets are the Symbols of the Trinity, surmounted by a cluster of Cherubim.

On the outer Acroters are placed Bishops’ Mitres, while on the top of the centre Acroter is placed the open Book, and on it a cushion and Royal Crown, the whole supported by two Cupids.

Let us now revert to the general state of the Parish. In 1710 the population of over forty thousand was quite beyond the accommodation which could be supplied by one Church. So far back as 1663 serious discussions had taken place in the Vestry respecting the advisability of erecting another in the Lordship part of the Parish. Nothing came of this, and in 1670 we find a petition to the House of Lords, praying that part of the tax on coals coming into the City may be applied to building new churches in several parishes, amongst others in St. Giles, Cripplegate.

This again was without result. The Vestry, however, had not forgotten the matter, and in September, 1711, a Committee was appointed “to find a piece of ground to build one or more Churches, one new Church in the Freedom and two in the Lordship to be sufficient.” The site where the Church of St. Luke now stands was then selected for one, and for another, ground in Whitecross Street. This

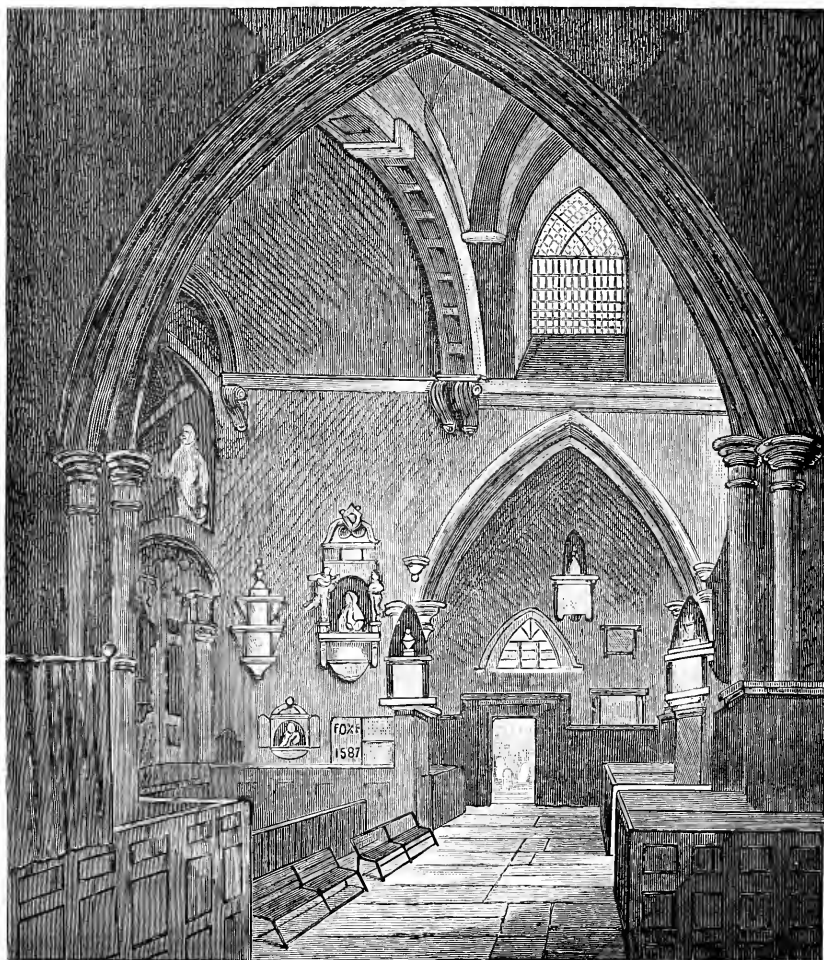
latter suggestion fell through, the extra Church in the Freedom not being built till 1850, but it is clear that in 1716 the Vestry thought that at least one Church would be immediately built, for in January of the same year the Vestry order "That Dr. Whitfield be desired to intercede with the Commissioners for building new Churches that the labourers living in this Parish may be employed in or about the building of one or more Churches here"; but, after sixteen years, a special Act of Parliament was obtained in 1732, and the portion of St. Giles' Parish formerly known as the Lordship was made a separate Parish. The Church in Old Street was erected in 1733, and dedicated to St. Luke.

In the Parish Clerk's survey of the Parish in 1732 (St. Giles proper, then just divided from the Lordship), the income for the Vicarage is given as £450 per annum, and the number of houses at 1,800, with a population of 8,000. Maitland adds: "There are seven who keep coaches" (carriages). This is probably the largest number of houses the Parish ever contained, for, owing doubtless to the over-crowding (precisely as has been the case in our own times in the immediate suburbs of London), many of the wealthy inhabitants removed to less frequented, and, therefore, healthier districts, Hackney and Bow being chiefly chosen by Cripplegate people. The large houses thus vacated were, in most cases, let out in tenements, or demolished, to become the site for rows of smaller ones. Thus the Parish became gradually poorer; heavy rates for the relief of the poor were necessary, that in 1742 being at the rate of 3s. in the pound, producing £4,000. In 1760 the old Cripple-gate, which had been rebuilt in 1244 by the brewers, and undergone considerable repairs in 1491, and again in 1663, when a foot postern was made, was, by order of the Commissioners of City Lands, sold and removed. £91 was given for the material by a Mr. Blagden.

During the five hundred years that the Gate stood it had been used for various purposes. Originally a military guard house, later it was used as a prison, and the upper stories, in common with other City gates, for lodging various officials connected with the Lord Mayor.

Nothing further of particular interest occurred in Cripplegate during the remainder of the century. Probably a greater variety of small traders carried on business there than in any other City parish; ale houses were plentiful, and also not a few "stores" for receiving stolen goods. The number of tokens struck by the Cripplegate tradesmen at the end of the previous century, showed them to be as enterprising as any of their neighbours. Boyne gives "5 in Fore Street, 13 in Grub Street, and 15 in Barbican." A fair share of the City Companies had their

Halls in the Parish; in 1761 we find those of the Haberdashers, Curriers, Bowyers, Brewers, Plaisterers, and Loriners, situate there. Grub Street, now Milton Street (*not* so called after the poet), had earned for itself in the early part of the century a modest fame as the residence of authors,



VIEW OF INTERIOR OF ST. GILES, CRIPPLEGATE. TAKEN FROM THE NORTH-EAST DOOR, LOOKING SOUTH, 1791-1860 (*from an old print*).

pamphleteers, and literary men generally, of more or less slender incomes, but these left the locality when their patrons—the wealthy and titled class—settled elsewhere.

From 1732 until 1800 nothing definite is found as to the number of the inhabitants, but since then the census shows the following figures:—

1811.	1821.	1831.	1841.	1851.	1861.	1871.	1881.
11,704.	13,038.	13,134.	13,255.	14,361.	13,498.	8,894.	3,863.

while the day census taken in 1881 by the Corporation of London gives the number of the people employed in the Parish during the day time as 15,962, which number has probably now been largely increased. Consistently with the rapidly decreasing resident population, the number of inhabited houses was reduced from 1,558 in 1841 to 463 in 1881, and since that has still further decreased.

The view given on page 38 is taken from an old print in the possession of the late Mr. Denton, and gives what was probably the appearance of the East end of the Church from 1791 to 1860. It clearly shows the position of some of the older monuments in the Chancel, as they are described in "Stow's Survey," edition 1633. Those of Speed and Whitney are unmistakable, while that of Fox is indicated by the words Foxe, 1587. As mentioned elsewhere, it is partly hidden by the wainscot. At the south-east side of the Chancel is a rough representation of a figure, most probably that of Moses (1704). The door facing the beholder, leading into the Churchyard, was closed during the alterations in 1862.

As has been before mentioned, a scheme had been started to build another Church in St. Giles' Parish. This was carried into effect in 1850, the site selected being that formerly occupied by the old Workhouse in Moor Lane. The great portion of the material and interior fittings were formerly part of the Church of St. Bartholomew by the Exchange, the dedication of which it retained. The funds for erecting the Church were supplied by the proceeds of the sale of the ground on which the former Church stood, together with a contribution from St. Giles' Vestry.

The Rev. W. Denton, who had held the living from the first, died in January, 1888.

At the time of the division, the new Parish contained 525 houses, with 4,158 souls, but in 1862-3, by the making of the Metropolitan Railway from Farringdon to Moorgate, three-fourths of the Parish were evicted. From that time till the present the population has continued to decrease from 1,390 souls in 1881, to 800 in 1887, and the number will no doubt further decrease. In consequence of this, the Vestry of St. Giles petitioned the Bishop of London to hold an enquiry as to the

desirability of re-uniting the District Church with the Mother Church, where it was thought sufficient accommodation for the whole of the inhabitants of the original Parish could be found, and the Clergy there would be able to attend to the spiritual wants of the whole district. A Commission of Enquiry was appointed, and after full investigation (the Churchwardens and others from both Parishes appearing before it) a majority of the Commission reported that a re-union was desirable.

Again returning to the Church of St. Giles, we find various repairs and minor alterations carried out between the years 1800 and 1858. In 1813 the accounts show that £2,111 14s. 4d. was spent on the steeple and internal beautifying, &c. In 1840, and again in 1851 repairs were effected, those in the last-named year costing £500. Many entries occur in the minute books of sums granted for repairing and "beautifying" the Church, this last expression usually having reference to a liberal application of plaster and white-wash, except toward the second half of the century, when much better taste and discrimination began to be displayed, especially by the promoters of the restoration of the Church in 1858, who truly reflected the altered feeling of the times in all matters of taste.

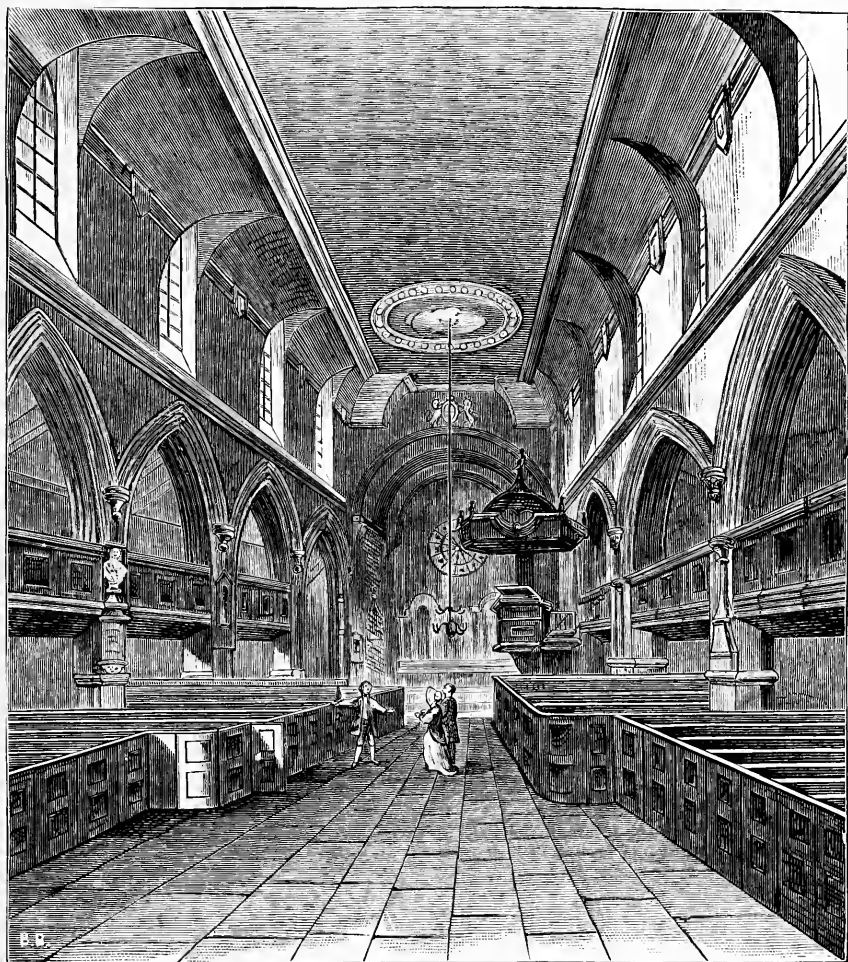
In 1818, we find the Vestry rather in advance of the times, ordering that gas, then but very recently introduced into the streets of London, "be forthwith laid on in the Church, the expense of laying on not to exceed £100, and the expense not to exceed 16s. per annum for each burner." This was done then, and again, in a more effective manner, in 1839.

Allen in his "History of London," published in 1830, gives the following description of the Church:—

"It is a spacious and substantial building, and though much disfigured by modern alterations and detached buildings, still shows considerable portions of the ancient edifice. The plan gives a nave, side aisles, and chancel, with a large and massive square tower at west end, of four storeys, the upper part of red brick (15 feet added in 1682). The ancient parts of the tower and the south side of the Church are built of stone in irregular masses, interspersed with tile and brick. From the nature of the materials as well as the form of the arches, it is evident that these portions were not destroyed in the fire of 1545, but are the work of a period anterior to that date. The first storey shows the arch of a spacious window now walled up, on the west front.

The clerestory, rebuilt with brick in 1791, contains seven modern windows with pointed arches. The end of the north aisle has a window,

the tracery destroyed, as is the tracery of all the windows, and modern imitations introduced, and several modern windows walled up. The north side of the Church is nearly concealed by the Quest House, a



VIEW OF THE INTERIOR OF THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES, CRIPPLEGATE,
LOOKING EAST, 1791-1862 (*from an old print*).

large modern Gothic building, which also covers the porch. The clerestory on this side cannot be seen from the street, but resembles that on the southern side. The division between the nave and the aisles is

made by seven arches on each side of the former, and is evidently the work of an earlier date than the fire of 1545. The soffit of the chancel ceiling is painted with a choir of angels. The original corbels are carved with angels sustaining shields, which sustain the timbers of the roof, on these shields are painted the arms of the Fishmongers, Skinners, Grocers, Haberdashers, Apothecaries, Drapers, Goldsmiths, Merchant Taylors, and Salters' Companies."

This description is substantially correct of the Church as it stands to-day, with of course the exception that the windows are restored, and the roof made an open one, as described later on.

In the view given on the preceding page are seen the arms of the different companies as described by Allen, the galleries to which reference has so often been made, and the high pulpit with its sounding board is clearly depicted. The bust of Milton is shown on the third column.

In the year 1858 a new traceried window was inserted in the south aisle, and some of the buttresses were repaired. This was followed in 1860 by a new window in the north aisle of a similar character. In April, 1861, rose windows were pierced at the east end of the north and south aisles.

In 1862 unusual efforts were made to raise a sufficient sum of money for the purpose of thoroughly restoring the Church to something like its early condition; and wide-spread interest was evinced in this effort to honour Milton's resting-place. £1,000 was voluntarily contributed by the parishioners, and the general public. Among the contributors were the Baroness Coutts (then Miss Coutts), the late Samuel Morley, the Members for the City, several of the Livery Companies and Bankers, and men of every denomination. With this fund in hand the first real attempt at restoration of the grand old fabric was made. The north and south galleries and staircases were removed, thus necessitating alterations to the western gallery (which was for the time retained) and the restoration of the nave. Many monuments were removed from the columns and placed on the walls, and the columns restored. At the same time the memorial shrine to Milton was erected in the south aisle, forming a fitting canopy for the fine marble bust of the poet, which formerly stood on a bracket on one of the columns of the nave. In 1863, a new traceried window was inserted in the south aisle; in 1865, the large window in the west end of the north aisle, and in the following year a corresponding window in the south aisle. The cost of the two last was £393 17s. 3d. The gallery at the

west end was removed in 1864, and the organ removed to the foot of the tower.

The commodious Vestry was erected in 1866-7 at a cost of between £400 and £500. In 1868-9, the more important restoration in the Church followed at a cost of between £4,000 and £5,000.

This work comprised the removal of the intermediate floors to the tower, the restoration of the large west window, and the north and south windows, together with the groined roof; also of the large western arch and piers forming the tower arch, together with the pierced stone tower screen, and the belfry windows. The plastered ceiling to the nave was removed, and a handsome framed inner roof substituted, casing in the old tie beams and roof timbers, with moulded ribs and spandrels, the ribs springing from new stone shafts terminating in carved heads and bosses. One of these carved heads is that of Milton, and is over the third column, in front of which his body lies. The others are supposed to represent Kings and Queens of England and prominent ecclesiastical reformers (one on the fifth column much resembles the portrait of Wycliffe), but, although so recently carved, all trace of the persons meant to be represented seems lost.

This work was carried out (as far as possible) in accordance with what so far as the fragmentary evidence then remaining could show, was the original idea of the building. In removing the brickwork at the west end of the tower, the outline and part of the tracery of the large window were clearly discernible, stained and discoloured by the Fire of 1545, thus clearly showing when it was bricked up.

New traceried windows, with cathedral glass and tinted margins, were inserted in the clerestory. The elliptical plastered arch to the chancel was removed, and a handsome stone chancel arch substituted, with perpendicular caps and bases. The organ at the same time was rebuilt at the east end of the north aisle, and ten years later the present modern case substituted for the old carved one. The floor of the Church was concreted, and the old pews cut down and remodelled in modern form. The wainscot and glass door was placed at the northern entrance. The nave was paved with tessellated tiles (a good substitute for the old paving stones), and the handsome new font erected on the raised dais.

In 1882 the Tower buttresses were repaired and stone work restored. Again, in 1885-6, a great improvement was effected when the walls of the aisle and clerestory of the south front were faced with Kentish



VUE OF THE INTERIOR OF THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES, CRIPPLEGATE.
LOOKING EAST, 1888.



VIEW OF THE INTERIOR OF THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES, CRIPPLEGATE,
LOOKING WEST, 1888.

rag-stone, the castellated battlements giving a rich and finished appearance to the structure, while the old turret staircase, which forms an appropriate and important feature, was retained.

A stone at the west end of the south wall thus commemorates the various recent restorations :—

ALL GLORY BE TO GOD.

THE RESTORATION OF THIS CHURCH
COMMENCED IN THE YEAR 1858, AND CARRIED
ON FROM TIME TO TIME BY
VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS ; WAS IN THE YEAR 1869
COMPLETED TO THE CHANCEL, CHIEFLY AT
THE COST OF THE PARISH.

THE REV. PHILIP PARKER GILBERT, M.A., *Vicar.*
WILLIAM BASSINGHAM, } *Churchwardens.*
THOMAS TURNER, }

ALSO IN THE YEAR 1880,
THE CHURCH WAS REPAIRED AND FURTHER BEAUTIFIED
AT THE EXPENSE OF THE PARISH.

JAMES LAKE, } *Churchwardens.*
CORNELIUS GILLET, }

Various minor improvements in addition have been effected from time to time in the removal and re-arrangement of many of the beautiful and unique mural monuments, and some, which had been previously entirely hidden, are now brought into greater prominence. Of the stained glass windows though the general effect may be, upon the whole, somewhat too highly coloured and garish, yet many are well worthy of notice. The window at the west-end of the south aisle is perhaps more particularly interesting to the parishioners of St. Giles, as it commemorates an act of tardy justice rendered to their neighbours in St. Luke's, in the matter of fair division of the charity funds administered in common by the two Parishes. So long ago as 1691, and at many different times, it was thought a settlement had been arrived at, but in 1864, when this matter was still only partly adjusted, the parishioners of St. Luke's contributed this window to St. Giles' Church in recognition of the good feeling existing between the two Parishes. The subjects are "The Shepherds watching their flocks"; "The Nativity" and the "Wise Men coming from the East." The head-lights give representations of St. Giles, with his hind (as shown

on the front page), of St. Luke, the physician, with his symbol, the winged ox, in the foreground, and underneath the inscription "In grateful remembrance of Edward Alleyne,* the founder of Dulwich Collège." In 1877 the Churchwarden (Mr. Isaac Bosquet) made a determined effort to settle this long-standing dispute; and to save further loss occasioned by legal proceedings (the costs already amounted to £3,000), he summoned the representatives of both Parishes to an informal meeting, when, without the aid of the lawyers, the basis of an agreement was settled—which was shortly afterwards carried out to the entire satisfaction of all concerned. A memorial window was then placed in St. Luke's Church, at the expense of the Parish of St. Giles. The window at the north-west end is unquestionably the best in the Church, its general design and colouring being very good; the central figures represent Isaiah, David, and John the Baptist; the head light shows four angels, with over them a phoenix rising from its ashes; below are the arms of the donor, Jabez Gower, Esq. The corresponding window at the end of the south aisle has, for its centre subject, "The Baptism of our Lord," and the Apostles Peter and Paul on either side; the head lights is as the one described above, except that a lamb is substituted for the phoenix, and at the base the crests of the three donors—Smith, Nind, and Wilson. To the latter donor, Alderman Wilson, the Church is also indebted for stained glass in the great west window. The remaining windows give representations in various styles of design and execution, respectively, of "Moses with the table of the law," "Aaron the High Priest," "Our Saviour walking on the sea" (the Apostles John and James on either side of this), the "Good Shepherd," and "Our Saviour blessing the little children." These windows were given by Churchwardens King, Stillwell, Seeley, Pickering, Treggon, Dalphin, Hopkinson, Reid; and by Mrs. Bassingham (in memory of her husband), the Misses Reeves, Richard Lambert Jones, Edmund Woodthorpe, and Alexander Baylis. The east end of both the north and south walls have rose windows; the subject of each being angels in adoration. Very great praise must be given for the presentation of these windows by Churchwardens and Parishioners, who have spared neither money nor pains in adorning their Church.

The views of the interior, on pages 44-45, together with those of the exterior of the Church, as frontispiece, show, better than any description, the general style and effect of the building; it may, however, be stated

* Alleyne was a great benefactor to the Lordship part of the Parish, now St. Luke's.

that the division between the nave and aisles is made by seven pointed arches on each side. The columns and arches are elegantly formed and enriched with mouldings, and are most probably the original ones of 1392.

As will be seen by the ground plan, on page 190, the form of the Church is irregular, some say in consequence of the proximity of the City ditch, but this is quite an open question.

The inner dimensions of the Church are :—The extreme length from the west door to easternmost end of the chancel is 146 feet 3 inches; the north aisle 117 feet 9 inches; the south aisle 111 feet 3 inches. The width at the west end is 66 feet 6 inches, and at the east end 57 feet 8 inches. The width at west end between the south wall and pier 16 feet 10 inches, and between the north wall and pier 18 feet 3 inches. The width at east end between the south wall and pier 13 feet 8 inches, and between the north wall and pier 16 feet 9 inches. Extreme width of nave at west end, 25 feet 10 inches; and at east end, 20 feet 5 inches. Height of tie beam of the roof, 33 feet; and to moulded rib at apex of roof, 42 feet 8 inches. Height of chancel arch, 31 feet 7 inches; breadth, 17 feet 6 inches.

Height of Tower, 104 feet from pavement to the parapet; cornice of cupola, 16 feet higher; and from cornice to top of vane, 14 feet 9 inches additional; the terminals at the four corners, 12 feet 9 inches above the parapet. Total height from pavement, 134 feet 9 inches. The groined ceiling from pavement, 33 feet.

Census returns of the Parish, given on page 39, show the variations in the numbers of the inhabitants for 1811 to 1881, when the last return was made; since that time still greater alterations have taken place, many of the inhabited houses have been pulled down, and large warehouses have taken their place. Australian and other Colonial merchants and dealers in soft goods have largely settled here. The assessment of the Parish has steadily increased, and now stands higher than any other City Parish; it is also larger in area—comprising nearly 40 acres. In 1887 the net assessed value was settled at over £150,000. Taken altogether, the Parish of St. Giles Without Cripplegate may now be pronounced as in a most flourishing condition.

Besides being by far the largest and the most highly assessed Parish in the City, its position is unique in being the only one whose area is conterminous with a Ward.

It may also be said that although not so radical in their ideas as in days not long distant, the Parishioners are still progressive in spirit and

in action, taking a leading part in all the reforming movements of the times.

The Church is now open every day between ten and four o'clock for private prayer and devotion. Short services are held daily at 8 a.m. and 1.15 p.m. ; and on two evenings in the week at 6.30 p.m. On Sundays there are ordinary morning and evening services, and a short service for children in the afternoon. The congregation in the morning is one of the largest in the City, usually numbering 450 adults and children. The evening service is also well attended.

OFFICIALS OF THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. GILES,
WITHOUT CRIPPLEGATE, 1887.

Vicar.

Rev. Prebendary ALBERT BARFF, M.A.

Curate.

Rev. CHARLES E. J. CARTER, M.A.

Churchwardens.

JOHN JAMES BADDELEY.

LEONARD WM. CUBITT.

Overseers.

THOMAS MEIN.

RICHARD DYSON.

Sidesmen.

HARRY TOWNEND.

HARRY H. DUPLOCK.

HENRY PAYNE.

JOSEPH GILCHRIST.

Organist.

ARTHUR MILLER.

Choir Master.

ROBERT J. PITT.

Beadle.

JAMES W. KING.

Sextoness.

MATILDA ROBERTS.

NAMES OF SENIOR CHURCHWARDENS,

*Found in the Books of St. Giles, Cripplegate.**From Early Leases.*

1500. John Sturdy.
 1556. John Hiliare.
 1563. Thomas Busby, or
 William Maskall.
 1568. Thomas Busby.

From Swarder's Accounts.

1581. Thomas Lee.
 1582. Christopher Butler.
 1583. John Coxall.
 1584. Thomas Browen.
 1585. John Browen.
 1586. Robert Newman.
 1587. John Corbin.
 1588. William Streatonne.
 1589. Richard Pawson.
 1590. John Brode.
 1591. John Cornwall.
 1592. Charles Langley.
 1593. Richard Pawson.
 1594. John Granger.
 1595. Peter Merry.
 1596. Robert Newman.
 1597. Charles Langley.
 1598. Charles Langley.
 1599. John Corbyn.
 1600. Hugh Parker.
 1601. Laurence Andrewes.
 1602. Peter Merrey.
 1603. Henry Wyllys.
 1604. John Taylor.
 1605. Edward Sucklynge.
 1606. David Jones.
 1607. Nathaniel Tracy.
 1608. William Reddinge.
 1609. John Cockeshotte.
 1610. Stephen Atkinson.
 1611. George Bryce.
 1612. Hamlet Rochdall.
 1613. Nicholas Ruddyard.
 1614. Robert Watkinson.
 1615. James Johnson.
 1616. Robert Wilkins.
 1617. Robert Watkinson.

From Table of Church Dues.

1644. Robert Maynwaring.

From Registers.

1646. Ralph Tasker.

From Grand Accounts.

1648. Thomas White.
 1649. William Beven.
 1650. Roger Mustian.
 1651. Thomas Whittle.
 1652. Thomas Shadbolt.
 1653. William Yates.
 1654. Thomas Papworth.
 1655. Yate Brackstone.
 1656. Simon Philbee.
 1657. Matthew Chantrell.
 1658. William Lilley.
 1659. Edward Dobson.
 1660. Isaac Bennet.
 1661. John Cliffe.
 1662. Edward Dearmar.
 1663. William Rookes.
 1664. Edward Potter.
 1665. William Shatchwell.
 1666. Daniel Shaw.
 1667. Henry Peirson.
 1668. John Wythens.

From General Vestry Minute Book.

1669. Thomas Alcocke.
 1670. Richard Knight.
 1671. Daniel Walton.
 1672. Richard Steele.
 1673. Henry Ward.
 1674. Edward Shawler.
 1675. Edward Hanney.
 — Richard Steele.
 1676. Edward Winston.
 1677. James Vesey.
 1678. John Latham.
 — Robert Bird.
 1679. William Iverson.
 1680. Henry Sudbury.
 1681. Randolph Watson.
 1682. Edward Robins.
 1683. Hugh Rigby.
 1684. Thomas Ems.
 1685. Thomas Linford.
 1686. Nathan Green.
 1687. John Clark.
 1688. William Moody.

1689. John Jones.
1690. James Quilter.
1691. Ralph Cates.

From Freedom Vestry Minute Book.

1692. William Merideth.
1693. Timothy Hows.
1694. Thomas Stevenson.
1695. George Osmond.
1696. Abraham Bedbury.
1697. Joseph Kilby.
1698. Samuel Seaton.
1699. Thomas Osborne.
1700. Edward Jeffries.
1701. Henry Morris.
1702. John Arnold.
1703. John Buckmaster.
1704. Richard Bowles.
1705. Daniel Bird.
1706. John Smith.
1707. John Fulver.
1708. Benjamin Fleming.
1709. Roger Hitchcock.
1710. William Page.
1711. John Child.
1712. Samuel Carr.
1713. Jonas Dye.
1714. Thomas Roberts.
1715. Thomas Caton.
1716. Ralph Cartwright.
1717. John Woodward.
1718. George Stray.
1719. Seth Adams.
1720. John Smithers.
1721. William Flux.
1722. Philip Goodale.
1723. John Evans.
1724. William Meredith.
1725. John Addison.
1726. Thomas Cogan.
1727. John Simister.
1728. Thomas Spittle.
1729. Thomas Bourne.
1730. Samuel Grisold.
1731. Matthew Vines.
1732. John Mabbot.
1733. John Robson.
1734. Nathaniel Lane.
1735. Richard Higginson.
1736. Henry Budgen.
1737. Stephen Butler.
1738. Philip Adams.
1739. John Bickerton.

1740. John Hammond.
1741. Thomas Davis.
1742. Samuel Sanders.
1743. Simon King.
1744. Francis Strong.
1745. William Tilley.
1746. William Lovejoy.
1747. John King.
1748. William Unwin.
1749. Thomas Ibell.
— Francis Albone.
1750. John Wilkins.
1751. Stephen Keene.
1752. Dangerfield Taylor.
1753. James White.
1754. Robert Heath.
1755. Caleb Lea.
1756. John Savell.
1757. James Bonner.
1758. John Caterer.
1759. William Howe.
1760. Thomas King.
1761. John Cunningham.
1762. Robert Kelham.
1763. John Jones.
1764. Edward Thornton.
1765. Richard Jackson.
1766. William Curtis.
— *Richard Jackson (*Deputy Churchwarden*).
1767. Richard Saunders.
1768. William Watts.
1769. Thomas Tuck.
1770. William Evans.
1771. Henry Knight.
1772. Thomas Cox.
1773. Robert Clark.
1774. John Holyoak.
1775. Daniel Crockett.
1776. Samuel Smith.
1777. Southern Payne.
1778. Edward Crawshawe.
1779. John Scott.
1780. William Morland.
1781. Daniel Grindley.
1782. John Warner.
1783. Thomas Lane.
1784. Benjamin Geary.
1785. John Lowe.
1786. William Godfrey Browne.
1787. Richard Gouge.
1788. Nicholas Browning.
1789. John Benjamin Cole.

* See foot-note, page 52.

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| 1790. William Turner. | 1838. Francis Sadler. |
| -- *John B. Cole (<i>Deputy Churchwarden</i>). | 1839. George Thomson. |
| 1791. Andrew Wright. | 1840. William King. |
| 1792. Thomas Willats. | 1841. James Rutherford. |
| 1793. Thomas Smith. | 1842. John Johnson. |
| 1794. Edward Richardson. | 1843. John Johnson. |
| 1795. Barnard Bayley. | 1844. Edward Stillwell. |
| 1796. Edward Bodell. | 1845. John Seeley. |
| 1797. John Mill. | 1846. James Fawcett. |
| 1798. William Tomlin. | 1847. John Flower. |
| 1799. John Ward. | 1848. George Cuthbert. |
| 1800. Thomas Potts. | 1849. George Cuthbert. |
| 1801. William Adams. | 1850. Samuel Godfrey Hall. |
| 1802. Thomas Dolley. | 1851. Joseph Hooke. |
| 1803. William Robson. | 1852. Samuel Lowe. |
| 1804. Thomas Challis. | 1853. John Sewell. |
| 1805. William Smith. | 1854. John Pickering. |
| 1806. John Moor. | 1855. Henry Treggon. |
| 1807. Robert French. | 1856. John Scholes. |
| 1808. Henry Carr. | 1857. William Hughes. |
| 1809. Joseph Mayor. | 1858. John Nind. |
| 1810. Aaron Stafford. | 1859. John Dalphin. |
| 1811. Aaron Stafford. | 1860. William Hopkinson. |
| 1812. Thomas Basset Reid. | 1861. Reginald Reid. |
| 1813. John Brogden. | 1862. Henry Fendick. |
| 1814. Joseph Pullen. | 1863. Henry Nind. |
| 1815. James Carter. | 1864. Walter Morisse. |
| 1816. Henry Case. | 1865. David Smith. |
| 1817. William Legge. | 1866. John Eddison Craney. |
| 1818. Joseph Dalton Dewick. | 1867. John Eddison Craney. |
| 1819. William Beaver. | 1868. William Bassingham. |
| 1820. William Brown. | 1869. Thomas Turner. |
| 1821. William Brown. | 1870. Robert Hall. |
| 1822. Samuel Stevens. | 1871. Joseph Hudson. |
| 1823. John Buckoke. | 1872. Jesse Turner. |
| 1824. John Buckoke. | 1873. William G. Larke. |
| 1825. Thomas Hill. | 1874. James Harvey. |
| 1826. William Mason. | 1875. Henry Griffin. |
| 1827. Matthew Wyton. | 1876. Underdown Knell. |
| 1828. Thomas Metcalfe. | 1877. Isaac Bousquet. |
| 1829. George Roadley Simpkin. | 1878. George Seares. |
| 1830. Thomas Fernce. | 1879. George Matthew Felton. |
| 1831. B. E. Batley. | 1880. James Lake. |
| 1832. George Meadway. | 1881. Cornelius Gillett. |
| 1833. William Flanders. | 1882. William Charles Pearson. |
| 1834. Francis Lea. | 1883. John Corke. |
| 1835. J. Picket. | 1884. Joseph Mann. |
| 1836. John Atherly. | 1885. Henry James Felton. |
| — Thomas Metcalfe. | 1886. John Craggs Leefe. |
| 1837. Henry Douthwaite. | 1887. John James Baddeley. |
| | 1888. Leonard W. Cubitt. |

* In both these cases the Senior Churchwarden of the previous year volunteered to serve in the place of the Churchwarden duly elected, and is called in the Minute books "Deputy Churchwarden."



THE PARISH
DURING THE JUBILEE YEAR OF THE REIGN
OF QUEEN VICTORIA.

MOST of the large parishes in the City of London celebrated the Queen's Jubilee in one form or another, but it may fairly be claimed for the Parish of St. Giles, Cripplegate, that the event was here celebrated in a more complete manner than in any other.

At the Easter Vestry, 1887, it was resolved that "A Committee be appointed to consider and report what steps should be taken in the Parish to commemorate the completion of the 50th year of the Reign of Her Majesty the Queen, an event unexampled in the history of any female Sovereignty in any country."

A committee was appointed, who at their first meeting unanimously resolved that "A Drinking Fountain be erected in some suitable place in the Churchyard, and that this be recommended to the Vestry as a proper memorial to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee." It was also resolved that, "Designs and estimates be obtained, the designs to harmonize with the church, and that the old 'Cripplegate' appear in the design."

This was done, and on the 24th May, 1887, a Vestry Meeting was held, at which three designs were submitted, that of Messrs. Woodthorpe and Hammond being chosen. The work was proceeded with (a faculty having previously been obtained from the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's), and was completed and formally opened by the Vicar, at a Special Meeting of the Vestry, on the 22nd September following.

The engraving on the next page clearly shows the design, which, as desired by the committee's resolution, thoroughly "harmonizes with the church." The main portion is of Kentish ragstone, rough hewn, the basin and pediment of Aberdeen granite, the Queen's head, in

bold relief, in bronze; and on plain and simple tablets, on the front face of the towers, is the following inscription:—

IN
COMMEMORATION OF
QUEEN VICTORIA'S
JUBILEE,
JUNE 21st, 1887.

ERECTED BY
THE VESTRY OF ST. GILES,
CRIPPLEGATE.

ALBERT BARFF, M.A., *Vicar.*
JOHN J. BADDELEY, } *Churchwardens.*
LEONARD W. CUBITT, }

The idea, design and execution have given general satisfaction, while the fountain supplies a long-felt want. In the summer time hundreds



DRINKING FOUNTAIN IN THE CHURCHYARD OF ST. GILES, CRIPPLEGATE,
ERECTED IN COMMEMORATION OF QUEEN VICTORIA'S JUBILEE.

of the working people of the Parish refresh themselves with the water, and in their dinner-hour wander through the shady and pleasant churchyard.

The cost, including laying-on the water supply, obtaining the faculty, architect's fees, &c., was £240, which was paid out of the Parish rents account.

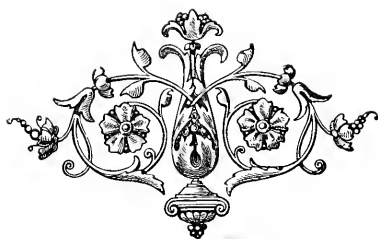
In addition to this permanent memorial, the immediate wants of the poor of the Parish were not forgotten. At the Easter Vestry Meeting it was ordered that "£10 10s. be granted to the City of London Union, towards a fund for providing, in various ways, for the pleasure and gratification of the Inmates of the Union." Also, "That 10s. be given to each of the Pensioners on the Bequest Fund under the Separate Estate Trustees, and also to those on the Cripplegate Pension Society's Fund." The Children in the Schools were also remembered; £20 was ordered to be placed at the disposal of the Trustees of the Boys' School, and the same sum to the Governors of Lady Holles Girls' School, in aid of a Special Treat for the boys and girls of these Schools." These Gifts were granted out of the Parish rents.

The Queen's Jubilee was also celebrated in a more personal manner by the Vicar and Churchwardens, who, at their own expense, caused medals to be struck commemorating the event. The design is given below, and has been much admired; the profile of the Queen is exceptionally good, and compares favourably with the new coins struck in the same year.



MEDAL STRUCK IN COMMEMORATION OF THE JUBILEE
OF QUEEN VICTORIA, 1887.

Medals in bronze were presented to the members of the Vestry, and to the chief officials of the Parish, and medals in white-metal to all the children attending the Girls' and Boys' Schools.





THE VICARS.

NO trace can be found of any of the Vicars of St. Giles, Cripplegate, until towards the end of the 13th Century. In the Hustings Roll of the Corporation of the City of London, is enrolled a Will, dated 1279, of Philip, Vicar of the Church of St. Giles Without Cripplegate, whereby he Wills that his dwelling-house be sold by his executors, and the proceeds distributed for pious uses. In a Deed dated 1280, Robert de Lausele is described as *Rector* of St. Giles Without Cripplegate. When the office of Sub-Dean in St. Paul's Cathedral was created in 1295, and the living of St. Giles set aside for its endowment, Robert de Lausele was appointed the first Sub-Dean. In 1847, on this ground the then Sub-Dean of St. Paul's claimed the living of St. Giles, but the Bishop ruled that the evidence in support of his claim was not sufficient. In 1333 Peter de Berkhamptede, in 1348 John Ferour, in 1351 Martin Elys, in 1353 John Philip are styled Vicars, and in 1360 "Bartholomew" is described as perpetual Vicar of the Church of St. Giles Without Cripplegate.

In a document in Rymer's "Fœdera," dated 1371, Philip de Norton, Vicar of St. Giles, beyond Cripplegate, is mentioned as having license to go to the Court of Rome. In the Hustings Roll, between the years 1378-1393, John Trowbridge is mentioned several times. The fire in the Church in 1545, and the destruction of the archives of the Dean and Chapter of St. Pauls (the Patrons of the living), in the Great Fire of London of 1666, are the chief causes of such scanty information as to the Vicars of Saint Giles. The next reference after those in the 14th Century is found in the Will of one John Sworder, dated 2nd April, 1500, in which he bequeaths to Mr. Thomas Sworder, "Vicar of the Parish Church of St. Giles, Cripplegate," eight tenements in Fore Street, to pay certain charges, and after "to allow the residue to remain in a chest within the church, having three locks, of which the Vicar and Churchwardens should respectively keep the keys, until it reach the

amount of £40 as above, to the intent that when any fifteenth should be granted to the King by Parliament, the same money should be applied in aid of the poor inhabitants of the Parish towards their charge of the same fifteenth, and that if any money be remaining in the chest after the charge of such fifteenth, that it be applied towards such things as should be necessary for the Church of St. Giles, aforesaid, or towards the works or reparation of the same."

Part of the proceeds of this bequest is still used for church repairs.

In a lease, a copy of which is among the Cripplegate papers, to one John Kennedy, on 8th March, 1557, Henry Mallet, clerke, is mentioned as "Vicar of St. Giles, Creplegate." The next Vicar, and the first to whom existing Parish records make any reference, is Robert Crowley. The date of Crowley's appointment is not known, but in a lease to a William Maskell of 10th March, 1564, his name occurs as "Vicar of Cripplegate."

Robert Crowley, after taking his degree at Oxford and becoming a Fellow of Magdalen College, settled, owing to the religious difficulties of the time, as a stationer and printer, in Ely Rents, Holborn, where for three years he carried on this business, and was the first to print and publish the "Vision of William" concerning "Piers the Plowman." Three different impressions were issued from his press in 1550. When ordained by Bishop Ridley, he is styled "Stationer of the Parish of St. Andrews, Holborn." His sympathies were with the extreme Puritans in their strong dislike to all church ceremonial, and their desire that the Psalms and other portions of the service should be read instead of chanted. In this he was so far ahead of the ideas of his parishioners and of his ecclesiastical superiors, that he was frequently in trouble, and placed in positions of some danger. It was on this account that he was for a time deprived of his living. His objection to the surplice led to his deprivation. On 28th March, 1566, for refusing to conform he was suspended. This he disregarded. On the 1st April, 1566, the singers, relying on the new orders, appeared to take part in a funeral service in the Church, dressed in their habits. They were met by Crowley, his Curate, and the Deputy, at the Church door, and ordered "to take off these porter's coats." The Deputy threatened to lay the singing men fast by the feet if they would break the peace. The singers retired. The Lord Mayor complained to the Archbishop, who summoned Crowley and the Deputy to appear. Crowley said his conscience would not allow him to wear the surplice, nor would it

allow him to cease from his duties as vicar, unless he were discharged. The Bishop said he did discharge him, to which Crowley replied, he would be discharged by a court of law. Crowley was ordered to keep his house, and the Deputy was bound over in £100 to appear again if called on. A month after this three-score women went to the Bishop of London's house, to ask him to remove an inhibition he had laid on the lecturer at St. Giles for contumacy. The Bishop replied, "that he would not in such case deal with such numbers of women, as much misliking such kind of assembling, but he wished them to send him half-a-dozen of their husbands, and with them he would talk."

Crowley was obstinate, and in three months deprivation followed. He was sent to Dr. Cox, Bishop of Ely, and on 28th October an order was issued to the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of London to order the case of Mr. Crowley, who had been committed to the Bishop of Ely, as it was more fit for them than the Council. In 1569 he dates the preface of one of his volumes from his house in Southwark, near London. In 1574 he preached before the Lord Mayor and Common Council, and in 1576 was presented to St. Lawrence Jewry, the patronage for this turn having lapsed to the Bishop of London. On the death of Draunt, in April, 1578, Crowley was again installed in Cripplegate, and on May 5th his successor was appointed to St. Lawrence Jewry, by the patron. On the 22nd April, 1582, we find Crowley as Vicar, signing a lease (in which mention of the "Quest House" is made), and from this date until May, 1588, his signature occurs regularly to the audit of "Sworder's" accounts. He was admitted a member of the Stationers' Company, in 1578, and after his death, his widow having fallen into poverty, the Company allowed her, in 1592, a noble per year towards her support. Although he did not live to see it, Crowley's teaching and example no doubt bore fruit in the next generation when, during the great constitutional struggle of the time, the men of Cripplegate were zealous partizans of the Parliament.

In a lease, a copy of which still exists among the Parish papers, Thomas Draunt occurs as Vicar, on 12th February, 1568-9. His burial took place on 16th April, 1578. He would appear to have been in high favour with Queen Elizabeth, for when the Bishopric of Chichester was vacant in 1570, she appointed him, on 21st January, Prebendary of Chichester, on 31st January, Rector of Slinfold in Sussex, and on 27th February, Archdeacon of Lewes. The baptism of one daughter, and the burial of another, would seem to point to his residence in the

Parish. His quarrels in the Diocese of Chichester occupy considerable space in "Strype," who also quotes a sermon preached in St. Giles as evidence, in his opinion, that Draunt was not quite sane. The name in the copy of the lease and the entries in the Parish Registers are all the memories now of his connection with St. Giles'. Lancelot Andrewes succeeded Robert Crowley, and remained Vicar until 1604, when, on being appointed Bishop of Chichester, he resigned the living of St. Giles. It is said of him "that he was learned in fifteen ancient and modern tongues." He was one of the translators of the authorised version of the Bible. After him came Dr. John Buckeridge, who held the living until his appointment as Bishop of Ely in 1628. He was appointed Bishop of Rochester in 1611, and, on account of the poverty of his See, was allowed to retain the Vicarage of Cripplegate. It was during his tenure of office as Vicar, that Oliver Cromwell, then just twenty-one years of age, was married in St. Giles' Church to Elizabeth Bourchier, daughter of Sir James Bourchier, one of the many country gentlemen who made Cripplegate their London home. The entry under the head of marriages for August, 1620, runs as follows:—"Oliver Crumwell and Elizabeth Bourcher, 22. Lyc.*" This is in the Clerk's writing, autograph signatures, which would have made this entry more interesting, unfortunately being not yet introduced.

The next Vicar, Dr. William Fuller, who succeeded Dr. Buckeridge in 1628, being a staunch Royalist and Churchman was latterly in constant difficulties with his Parishioners, and many unbecoming scenes naturally resulted. As an instance of the annoyance to which the Vicar was subjected, the Parishioners on whom Parliament had, in 1641, conferred the right of appointing a Lecturer, exercised that right by selecting for the post John Sedgwick, Rector of the neighbouring Parish of St. Alphage, an active member of the "Committee formed for raising money to carry on the war against the King." (*See Denton.*)

Charges were made to the Privy Council against him by Robert Grosse, one of his Curates, but the answer was as follows:—

January, 1639.—"Upon consideration of petition of Robert Grosse, Clerk, against Dr. Fuller, Dean of Ely (Vicar of Cripplegate), the Lords declared that they hold the same to be clamorous and in no sort to be credited against so Reverend a person, whose integrity is in so good esteem with the Lords as the aspersions endeavoured to be cast upon him weigh nothing with the Board." It is ordered, "That Grosse's petition be rejected, and the business left to the Court of High Commission."

* The figures stand for the day of the month. "Lyc." indicates marriage by licence, not after banns.

In July, 1642, Timothy Hutton, Curate to Dr. Fuller, was assaulted in the Church, and imprisoned by the House of Commons, for reading the King's proclamation. In the same year Dr. Fuller himself was deprived of the living and imprisoned by the Parliamentary party. King Charles, however, afterwards rewarded him, as far as was in his power, by presenting him to the Deanery of Durham. It is probable that he reaped little or no benefit from the Royal favour, as we find him with the King at Oxford, and after the surrender of that town to the Parliamentary forces (the King having meanwhile made good his escape), he returned to London and lived in obscurity until his death in 1659. He was buried in the Church of St. Vedast, Foster Lane, being refused burial in the Church of which he was some time Vicar. Newcourt in his "Repertorium" says, that the value of the living of St. Giles in 1636, was returned "as followeth:—Tyths, £360, Casualties, £140, and a Vicarage House"—a considerable sum in those days, but hardly out of proportion to the onerous duties resting on the Vicar, the Church being the only one in the entire district, extending to Shoreditch, Islington and Pentonville. The charges upon the income are given as first fruits £32 5s., and other minor charges as £12 4s. 6d.

From the time of the deprivation of Dr. Fuller in 1642, no Vicar was inducted until Samuel Annesley's appointment by Richard Cromwell in 1658. Bruno Ryves was appointed in 1646, but never took possession of the living, Churchmen being at a discount in Cripplegate just then. From 1648 to 1658 many entries occur of payments to "Ministers." The Parish is known to have been active in the Parliamentary cause, and probably the majority of the inhabitants were adherents of the Independent Party, and opposed to the Presbyterians. This very likely is the reason that no regular appointment was made. Many of the other City parishes settled down to the Presbyterian form of government, electing Elders, and the like. No record can be found that Cripplegate had a share in subscribing the Solemn League and Covenant, nor can any reference be found to any contribution towards the £100,000 to bring into England the Scotch Army in aid of the Parliament. Whatever was the reason, no Minister of any denomination can be found as having held the living. In one part of a Minister's duty, marriages, there would be but little need for him, very few marriages being solemnized in the Church during this period, marriages having come to be looked upon merely as a civil contract, and not a religious rite. The result was there were but few publications of banns or registrations

of marriages, and an Act was passed in 1653 to make both compulsory. The following three extracts from the Registers, will illustrate the different practices of the time:—

MARRIAGES IN OCTOBER, 1653, WITH THEIR SEVERAL DAYES
OF PUBLICATIONS, AS ALSO THE PLACES WHERE, WITH THE DAYES OF THE
MARRIAGES SUCCESSIVELY.

“Evan Pritchard and Judith Fleming both of our parish of Giles Cripplegate were published three several market dayes in Newgate Market in three several weekes concerning their intention of marriage viz^t on the 1st 5th and 12th days of October 1653 and married the 23rd day of the said month.—

Per Justice Blomer.”

“Thomas Coates of the parish of Pancras Soperlane and Ann Partridge of Essex the daughter of Bartho: Partridge of Priors Hall in the County of Essex were published in their respective parish Churches and married per Ald: Titchbourne on the 2nd day of November 1653: by virtue of whose certificate they were married the same day in our parish Church.”

“James (*the vellum has failed*) and Jane Farmer of the parish of Stephen Coleman Street were published in Cheapside Market three market dayes in three several weekes viz^t on the 9th 11th and 18th dayes of December 1654 and were married on the 19th day of the said December.—*Per Christopher Pack, Lord Maior.”*

From 1648 to 1659, the annual audit of the Grand Account lacks the signature of a Vicar, the Deputy of the Ward signing his name first on the roll; Dr. Annesley first signs the audit on 14th June, 1660, as Vicar.

The following are some of the payments made by the Vestry to Ministers for Sermons:—

1648.—Mr. Kelly for sermon on Allhalowsday £2 10s.

1649.—Mr. Torshell „ „ £2 10s.

1652.—Mr. Witham for a sermon 10s.

1652.—Mr. Kelly for sermon on Allhallows day 50s. [With the exception of 1649, Mr. Kelly preaches the Allhallows day sermon every year from 1648 to 1658.]

1654.—Mr. Kelly for a sermon on a thanksgiving day the 24th March for the peace concluded between England and the Netherlands 5s.

1656.—Mr. White Minister for preaching on 28th February for the peace concluded between England and France in November of last year 10s.

1657.—Mr. Mackarness for a sermon on a thanksgiving day 10s.

1657.—Mr. White for a sermon on the 3rd June 1657 being a thanksgiving day 10s.

1658.—Mr. Sheffield for a sermon 28th March 15s.

„ Meade „ „ 4th April 20s.

„ Mackarness „ „ 11th April 15s.

„ „ „ „ 18th „ 15s.

1658.—Mr. Croke for a sermon on Oct. 17th 15s.

Mr. Love for a sermon on Oct. 24th 20s.

It appears that the new Vicar had very decided Royalist predilections. His first sermon in St. Giles is recorded as preached on Allhallows' Day, 1658, and was speedily followed by petitions to Richard Cromwell,

presumably for his removal. The three entries following occur in the accounts before the close of that same year :—

Paid for coach hire several times to Whitehall and back again, and for a petition and other charges concerning Dr. Annesley's business, 18s. 6d.

Layed out about Dr. Annesley's business in going several times to Westminster with the New Petition and other charges, 14s. 3d.

Laid out more about Dr. Annesley's business, £1 5s. 6d.

Whether these petitions produced the desired result or not is not clear, but in the year of the Restoration Dr. Annesley's view of the case is shown in a petition he makes to Charles II, wherein he states, "he publicly detested the horrid murder of your Royal Father," . . . and "refused to send a Horse against your Majesty at Worcester," and "sent a man (he being away from home at the time) 40 miles to seize upon the keys of his Church lest any one should keep a thanksgiving service there for Worcester." His chief grievance would seem to have been against Cromwell (whom, in his opinion, "God would discover to be the arrantest hypocrite that ever the Church of Christ was pestered with"), that though he had been necessitated to quit a parsonage worth £200 or £300 per annum, yet Cromwell stood in the way of his promotion; and later on, while presenting him to a vacant Lectureship at St. Paul's "to cover his base injustice," Oliver with it only allowed him £120 per annum instead of £400 as previously. Charles II's decision seems hardly to have been satisfactory to Dr. Annesley.

At this time a petition signed by the Earl of Bridgewater and 282 other residents of Cripplegate (37 of whom made their mark) was presented to the King in favour of Dr. Bruno Ryves. It sets forth "That by reason of the late troubles the Doctor could not enjoy the benefit of His Majesty's favours nor your petitioners the benefit of his labours soe at present one Dr. Ansly doth possesse the said Vicaridge contrary to the votes and desires of the inhabitants of the said Parish who were altogether ignorant how he came to possess the same, the said Dr. Ansly pretending to be settled upon us by a grant from the late Tyrant or his son."

Annesley, however, continued Vicar of Cripplegate until St. Bartholomew's Day, 1662, when, on the Act of Uniformity coming into force, he resigned with the best grace he could. He would, however, appear to have been admired by some part of his parishioners in St. Giles. Many of them continued to avail themselves of his ministrations when he afterwards opened a Chapel in Great St. Helens, Bishopsgate, amongst others, the family of Foe, afterwards altered to "De Foe," one of the members of which (young at this time) has since immortalised

the name as author of "Robinson Crusoe." Dr. Annesley died in 1696, better known to the public as an ancestor of the noble brothers Wesley, founders of the now considerable religious body called after them. Susannah, the wife of Samuel Wesley, and mother of John and Charles Wesley, to whose training they and the world owe so much, was a daughter of this same Dr. Annesley, but her marriage seems to have displeased her father, as in Annesley's will she is not mentioned—other brothers and sisters sharing the property left.

The unsettled times just mentioned were followed by a re-action to enthusiastic Royalism. We find the next Vicar, John Dolben, had been all his life a staunch Royalist. At Oxford he had taken up arms for the King, and he now had his reward. He had married a niece of Dr. Sheldon, the Bishop of London, and was made by him Archdeacon of London, and Canon of St. Paul's; to this the living of Cripplegate was added, but after two years he resigned it for the Deanery of Westminster. In 1666 he was made Bishop of Rochester, and in 1683 Archbishop of York, where he died from small-pox in 1686. In his time the first movement was made towards building a Church in the Lordship part of the Parish—that part outside the Freedom of the City and extending to Pentonville and Islington, and which is now comprised in the Parish of St. Luke. The minutes read as follows:—

June 9, 1663.—Ordered forthwith that there bee two men chosen by the Freedom and two men likewise by the Lordship that live out of this Parish to treat about the building of the Church in the Lordship, and upon their non-agreement if such be: it be referred to Mr. Deane Dolben finally to determine on the whole matter.

Nothing however was settled until 1732—nearly three-quarters of a century afterwards—(see pp. 36, 37).

Soon after the Act of Uniformity, and the induction of Dr. John Dolben, a change was made in the manner of conducting the services; there was a return to the forms of the Church of England, with surpliced clergy, and the use of the Book of Common Prayer, as is shown by such entries as the following:—

1662.—A surplis be provided speedily of holland for the reader.

2 books of Common Prayer.

2 " " " of the last translation.

1663.—For 10 ells of Holland at 4s. per ell for surplis £2; For making the surplis 12s.

2 Common Prayer Books of the last impression, 18s.

Church Bible " " £2 3s. 4d.

In the Inventory at this time occurs the following:—

"*Item.* Three hour glasses and one halfhour glass,"

and a year or so afterwards—

“Item. Three glasses, one running an hour, another three quarters and a third half an hour.”

When Archbishop of York, Dr. Dolben was described as a “Preaching Bishop,” and one wonders, when Vicar of St. Giles, which of these glasses he was in the habit of using.

For many years previous to this time these graduated glasses were in general use. So far back as 1552, the following entry occurs in the Churchwardens’ accounts of St. Michael, Cornhill :—

“Item for an houre glasse for ye churchc iiijd.”

Other City churches can show similar entries, and one can well imagine the anxiety of the congregation to see which glass a dull preacher sets in motion, and with what earnestness they watch the sand run its course.

Dolben’s successor was John Pritchett, one of the most noted pluralists of his day. He held, at his death in 1681, in addition to the Vicarage of Saint Giles, the Bishopric of Gloucester, the living of Harlingdon, and a stall in St. Paul’s Cathedral. During his Incumbency the Great Plague raged at its highest in Cripplegate, and one is hardly surprised that he retired from his Parish during that time. Thomas Luckeyne, a Curate, was left behind, and on the death of the Parish Clerke; Dr. Pritchett, on 23rd August, in a letter from his country house, commissioned Luckeyne “to see the place of Clerke well and sufficiently supplied in every respect, and to take the Clerke’s dues for his paines.” The appointment was ratified by the Vestry on 4th September. It is comforting to find from the Parish Registers that in spite of his (the Vicar’s) bad example devoted men remained, who knew their duty, and did it, though at the cost of their lives. The following names of Nonconformist Ministers are given as dying of the Plague; all honour be to them:—Samuel Austin, John Askew, Samuel Skelton, Abraham Jennaway, Henry Morley, John Wall.

On the death of John Pritchett, in 1681, he was succeeded by Edward Fowler, who also seems not to have thought it contrary to his profession to undertake more duties than he could perform in person, as we find him for 23 years Vicar of the Parish (surely no sinecure, if properly performed), and also Bishop of Gloucester. He seems to have been well liked by his parishioners, though he did not always at first carry out his own points. See following extracts :—

1700.—It was ordered “That the chancel of the Church be put in good repair at the charge of the Parish, in acknowledgment of the bounty and kindness of the Vicar. the Bishop of Gloucester, who hath for a long time provided a Lecturer at his own charge.

Oct. 30, 1706.—The Bishop requesting this Vestry to choose a Lecturer for this Parish and recommending for their choice M^r. Thomas Sawyer, they debated the same for some time and then dispersed themselves without coming to any resolution thereon.

Sept. 15, 1708.—The Right Rev. Father in God Edward Lord Bishop of Gloucester Vicar of St. Giles, Cripplegate representing at this Vestry his having provided and paid a Lecturer at his own charge for five and twenty years last past, his being disabled by reason of age and sickness to preach himselfe in a morning any longer his being at the charge of a person to preach for him and that his family is large and the profits and income of his Vicarage very much decreased and having requested the said Vestry to ease him in his said charge by choosing M^r. Thomas Sawyer, Lecturer, It was agreed and ordered by a great majority of the persons then present that as well for the consideration afore mentioned as also of the several favours and kindnesses in many respects granted to this Parish by his Lordship, since he hath been Vicar thereof, that the said M^r. Tho^s. Sawyer should be and he is chosen Lecturer to preach the afternoon sermon of a Sabbath day during the life of his Lordship if the said M^r. Sawyer shall think fit and shall so long live.

It was in Dr. Fowler's time that the Cripplegate Boys' School was started (1698); afterwards ground was purchased, and the first permanent building erected in 1709, by voluntary subscription, added to a legacy of one Thomas Moore. In the same year the Lady Holles School for Girls was also founded, under a bequest of Lady Eleanor Holles, daughter of the Earl of Clare. The amount bequeathed was invested in ground rents, and by a decree in Chancery, a body of Trustees was appointed, by whom the School was established. At first it was carried on in the Boys' School House, when fifty girls were admitted, receiving a free education. Additional bequests were afterwards made for the same purpose, and these, together with subscriptions and contributions, enabled the Trustees to enlarge the School to receive one hundred girls. Both Schools have continued with increased efficiency until the present time. The Girls are now located in commodious premises in Redcross Street, with 250 girls in the Upper School, and 110 in the Infants; 105 in the Upper School being clothed out of the Trust funds, and 40 in the Infants' School, out of the funds left for the purpose in "Robert Hitchin's" Charity, administered by the Clothworkers' Company and the Churchwardens of Cripplegate. The Boys' School is now conducted in specially built but not too spacious or well planned premises in Bridgewater Square, and educates 170 boys in the Upper and 100 in the Lower School. Clothes are provided for 150 of the Upper School Boys.

Built and partly supported by surplus funds of The Lady Holles School Trust is a Middle Class School for Girls in Mare Street, Hackney, with 250 scholars on the books, who pay sums varying (according to age) from four to six pounds per annum for their education.

Dying in August, 1714, Dr. Fowler was succeeded by William Whitfield, who, during a short tenure of office, was not on the most pleasant terms with his parishioners. He could scarcely have been appointed when the following entry in the minutes of the Vestry occurs, which, to modern minds, must seem a strange way of attempting to transact parochial business :—

Sept. 19, 1714,—A Committee of six Vestrymen of the Freedom and six of the Lordship, and the four Churchwardens to meet the Reverend the Vicar, every Thursday night at six of the clock at “*Fellows Coffee House*” to consult matters relating to the Parish.

Probably, and it is not surprising, the Vicar did not like the proposed arrangement, and but few of the meetings took place, for on June 19th, 1715, we find the Vicar, in his turn, “*proposed and desired that the Committee formerly appointed to meet him of a Thursday night at Fellows’ Coffee House, to consult the affairs of the Parish, will come to his house on that night weekly for the future.*” The Vestrymen, however, seemed determined to ensure more convivial surroundings for their meetings, for on January 15th, 1716, it was proposed by the Vestry—

“*That the Committee will meet Dr. Whitfield of a Thursday night, at five o’clock weekly, to consult about having a workhouse in each part of the Parish, the first meeting to be on Thursday the 24th inst. at the Castle Tavern at Cripplegate.*”

As, however, the Vicar only lived a few months after, nothing decisive was arrived at, and during the short period of his incumbency, he had little time to make any mark in the Parish, or set on foot any work of importance.

These unpleasant relations between the congregation and its head seem, unfortunately, to have been continued with greater bitterness under the next Vicar, Thomas Bennet. Unseemly disturbances were of constant occurrence in the Church and Parish. This bad feeling is hardly to be wondered at, considering the unusual variety of sects and religious bodies in the district. In addition to the Church of England men, there were Quakers (passively resistant) well represented, the members of two Anabaptist Meeting-houses, two Independent, and one Roman Catholic Chapel, all, as may well be imagined, not over tolerant of the difference between their own and their neighbours’ religious views, and possibly still less tolerant of the payment of Church rates and tithes. In 1719 we find three Quakers were brought before the Court of Exchequer for non-payment of tithe of 2s. 9d. in the pound. After being in Court three years, the case was decided against the Vicar, with the result, no doubt, of leading many others to refuse payment. The following minute shows that the collection of the Church rate was troublesome.

"That the Churchwardens be empowered to prosecute such people at Doctors Commons as shall refuse to pay the Church rate." And again in April, 1705, with reference to two complaints against the same rate, "decided by the majority to rebate neither rate nor charge nor any part thereof." The question of payment of tithes and Church rates was no doubt then, as it always has been, a knotty one, and does not belong to our own times alone. Dr. Bennet was little likely to be tolerant of opposition, for he is well known as a champion of the Church of England against Popery and Dissent; he came into a Parish over-burdened with poor, and was himself rendered liable to arrest for non-payment of Poor Rate at the beginning of his Ministry, which no doubt embittered him in his treatment of the Vestry. Less than two years after his induction, *i.e.*, on the 2nd May, 1718, we find him "sueing the Churchwardens in the Court of the Dean and Chapter of St. Pauls for fees for burial of the poor pensioners"—2s. on each such burial. On June 12, the Vestry "resolve to stand by the Churchwardens," and allow them the assistance of counsel. Bennet seems to have been driven to extremes to defend himself. The position may be briefly described as follows:—The Vicar had right in saying to the Vestry, "you deny me my tythes, you deny me my rights under the lease of the Quest House and 'the four shoppes,' you tax me for the poor, and you seek to deny me my proper dues, which I will claim in a Court of Law."

On 18th December, 1723, the Vestry resolve "That the suits depending at Doctors Commons against Dr. Thos. Bennet to oblige him to distribute the Sacrament monies in his hands to the use it was given be proceeded in with effect by the Churchwardens from time to time (till the same be determined) at the charge of the Parish."

On March 29th, 1725, Dr. Bennet challenges the right of the Vestry to elect both Churchwardens (*see* page 172), and on 21st July, 1727, the Churchwardens "are empowered to advise with Council about the Vicar's claiming a right from the Deane and Chapter of St. Paul's as ordinary of this Parish about the right of burying in the Churchyard adjoining the Church, and to take such other measures as they see proper concerning the same." The great dispute, out of which all these arose, is mentioned on page 178. On his death in 1728, he was succeeded by Dr. John Rogers, who, though only holding the living until May in the following year, has left a record of exemplary discharge of his duties, exhibiting much devotion to the material and spiritual well-being of his

parishioners. His endeavours to heal the breach between the Vicar and the people caused by the many controversies in Dr. Bennet's time, were, however, owing to his premature death, of too short duration to make any lasting improvement. Dr. Rogers' biographer says:—"That had he lived, it would have been no hyperbole to say there *was* a Vicar of Cripplegate a popular man in his Parish."

During the earlier part of the time of his successor, Dr. Nicholls, the feelings of animosity were as strong as ever. Denton says there was "constant parochial warfare," and emphasizes this by the following extract from the will of one Ned Ward, dated 1731:—

Oh ! bury not my peaceful corpse
In Cripplegate, where discord dwells,
And wrangling parties jangle worse
Than alley scolds or Sunday's bells.

But after a year or two a fair amount of good-will and confidence seems to have been exhibited towards Dr. Nicholls, as, when the Deputy Parish Clerk, Mr. Peake, was prosecuted by the Parish "for acting as Clerk without due license," the Register Books were "ordered to be placed in Dr. Nicholls' hands for keeping the same, and the current Registers, when full, to be placed in his hands for the same purpose."

Amid all the discords, however, some steady work must have been going on in the Parish, as, during his incumbency in 1732, the Church of St. Luke was built, for the accommodation of the vastly increased population of the district, for whom no room could be made in St. Giles, and then the two Churches, with their respective Parishes, were made quite distinct (*see pp. 36, 37, 64*). At Easter, 1733, each Vestry elected its Committee on the Charitable Funds. Dr. Nicholls continued in office till his death in 1774, having then held the living for 45 years, a longer period than any previous Vicar. After him, we have George William Hand, of whom little is known, but from that very fact, and also from the comparison drawn between him and his successor, it may be well inferred that his was a peaceful time. Not so, however, under the next Vicar's rule, William Holmes, M.A., who succeeded him in 1802. In addition to the living of St. Giles', he for 30 years held the office of Sub-Dean of His Majesty's Chapel Royal. This latter office was possibly more to his taste, as we find he was very unfavourably thought of, on account of non-residence in the Parish. Another grievance against him was his grasping spirit in the matter of tithes. In a volume called "Choice Scraps" (in the Guildhall Library), there is a large collection of letters, pamphlets, &c., from 1820 to 1832, on the subject, with many

addresses to the Parishioners, calling upon them to resist payment. Comparisons, by no means favourable, are very freely instituted between him and his predecessor, such as the following :—

In 1800, the Rev. Dr. Hands, the *resident* Vicar of Cripplegate, was content to receive Tythes and Church Dues to the value of £400 per annum in paper currency.

In 1832, the Rev. W. Holmes, the *non-resident* Vicar of Cripplegate, receives Tythes, Compensations, Glebe and Church Dues of about £2,300 per annum in gold currency.

In justice to the Vicar, it should be mentioned that this great increase was in a considerable measure due to an Act of Parliament of 7th George IV, which extinguished tithes and Easter offerings for the Clergy, and ordered the Churchwardens instead, to levy a Church Rate: that in the Parish of St. Giles to be fixed at a sufficient amount to pay to the Vicar £1,800, for his stipend and for the necessary expenses of the Church.

Cap. 54, Sec. 1 of the above Act states :—

Whereas it will be beneficial to the inhabitants of the Parish that a certain annual stipend should from henceforth be paid to the Vicar of the said Parish for the time being £1,800 subject to such averages according to the price of Wheat from time to time in lieu satisfaction and discharge of all Tithes and Easter offerings or payments in lieu of Tithes to which such Vicar is entitled within the said Parish.

Sec. 28 runs as follows :—

And whereas the said annual sum of One thousand eight hundred pounds is the average price for ten years preceding the 25th day of December last of 4,105 bushels of good marketable Wheat within the said City of London according to the returns published in the London *Gazette*; and it is expedient that the annual sum to be paid to the Vicar for the time being of the said Parish should be subject to revision or variation every tenth year from and after the passing of this Act and that the annual stipend to the said Vicar for the time being should from time to time be the same number of bushels of good marketable Wheat according to the average price thereof within the said City of London, for the period of ten years then preceding.

The result of above Act has been that the Vicar's stipend has been gradually diminishing (with the exception of the decade 1875-1885), as the following table will show :—

				£	s.	d.
From Christmas, 1825	to Christmas, 1835	-	-	1,800	0	0
"	" 1835	"	1845	-	-	1,526 10 11
"	" 1845	"	1855	-	-	1,509 8 10½
"	" 1855	"	1865	-	-	1,421 15 8
"	" 1865	"	1875	-	-	1,317 0 5
"	" 1875	"	1885	-	-	1,411 1 10
"	" 1885	"	1895	-	-	1,133 3 0

When in 1851 the present Parish of St. Bartholomew was carved out of the Parish of St. Giles, a sixth part of the amount payable to the Vicar of St. Giles was allocated towards the stipend of the Vicar of St. Bartholomew. At the time of the appointment of the present Vicar,

a further sum of £200 per annum was, by an order of the Privy Council, ordered to be paid to the Rector of St. Luke, thus reducing the amount received by the Vicar of St. Giles to less than £750 per annum.

These further extracts following, show the Parishioners' grievance as to the advanced rateable value of House property in the Parish :—

In 1800, houses were rated at half their rental, and Tythes and Church Rates paid by the occupiers of the best houses did not exceed 35/- per annum.

In 1832, houses are rated upon Rack Rents, the Tythes and Church Rates paid by the occupiers of the best houses being from £12 to £14 per annum.

The succeeding Vicar was Frederick Blomberg, D.D. It is said that he was of a most charitable disposition, and universally esteemed. A tablet in the south aisle of the Church states that "he gave the munificent sum of £750 during the first three years of his Pastorate, towards relieving the necessities of his poor parishioners." A well-executed painting of him in oil hangs in the Vestry-room of the Quest House. He died in 1847, and was succeeded by William Hale Hale, M.A., Archdeacon and Canon of St. Paul's. He is also spoken of as of a kindly disposition, and one who bestowed much thoughtful charity among his parishioners. Resigning in 1857, he was succeeded by Philip Parker Gilbert, M.A., who held the living until his death in 1886. He was a man of great business capacity, and at one time possessed commanding eloquence. Soon after his induction to the living, he commenced the work of arousing an interest both in the Parish and the City at large, in the restoration of the Church. In this, with the help of successive Churchwardens and others, he was eventually successful. His business qualities also materially assisted in framing measures for the more efficient management of the different Parochial Charities, and he was the leading spirit in the management of the Boys' and Girls' Schools, and of the Metropolitan Dispensary, as well as in the more immediate work of the Parish.

He was succeeded by the present Vicar, Albert Barff, M.A., who entered on his duties fresh from the important post of head of the Choir School of St. Paul's Cathedral. During his as yet brief tenure of the office, he has won for himself golden opinions, and the good wishes of all. He was appointed to the Prebendal Stall of Twyford in St. Paul's Cathedral in September, 1887.





THE MONUMENTS.

AS mentioned in the account of the Church, the fire of 1545 destroyed most of the monuments, and there are none now existing prior to 1575; the one to Thomas Busby is of this date, and is in a remarkably good state of preservation.

It may be here mentioned that this, with several others, notably Constance Whitney's and Edward Harvist's, is of white marble varnished over. This seems to have been done ulterior to 1708, with the idea of more effectually preserving them, as a writer of that time describes one of the monuments as "a very spacious white marble." From various sources we gather that many monuments and tablets have been removed or covered over during different "plasterings." Stow mentions one especially, which he describes as "a very fair table with a rich Coat of Arms, hanging upon a pillar in the middle aisle, under it a long inscription, and below all, Two Hands joined, one out of a Cloud, and the other out of a Globe," and these words:—

"TILL THEN FAREWELL."

Stow also mentions that the Church was full of carved Heraldic Arms—mentioning thirteen Escutcheons of Arms of one family. A manuscript in the Ashmolean Library of the Bodleian, Oxford, contains the following as appearing in St. Giles' Church:—

For the Clarke's wife, of the parish, in the middle ile before the pulpitt in a faire brass monument is the wrighten:—

"Body.—I Mary Pawson lye below sleeping
Soul.—I Mary Pawson sitte above waking
Both.—We hope to meet again with glory clothed
Then Mary Pawson for ever more blessed.

She lived 70 years and dyed 1599."

The entry of the burial in the Church Register is as follows :—

Mary, wife of Richard Pawson, Sadler, Parish Clarke (buried), 20 September, 1599.

Malcolm, writing in 1805, speaking of the monuments, says :—"The floor of the enclosure for the font partly covers several large stones, having on them seven lozenges, each containing a field, on which *have* been brass plates."

These stones have either been removed from the Church, or the inscriptions have been defaced by wear of many feet, as also is the following, described in 1708, as inscribed on a grey marble slab in front of the Communion rails ; this is not now to be found.

HENRY COLEBURNE,
DIED AUGUST 8th, 1655,
Aged 57.

Silence ! but a word, namely, that he
Was pious, wise, just, merciful and free ;
This was his work, to quench illegal hates,
Not conquer Kingdoms, but compose debates ;
How rare a pilot in such tempests known,
Many estates embarked, but shipwrecked none.
Pardon his meaner grave, who thought it meet,
By virtue, not with fabrics, to be great,
For to his tomb none could more trophies bring
A useful man on earth, in Heaven a King.

EPITAPH.

Before this stone interred lies
The lame man's feet, the blind man's eyes,
Blest when at the last judgment he
With these, shall his Redeemer see,
None like to those except that Eye
Of faith which brings plerophory.

The composer of above is unknown, and no more efforts of his genius are discernible in the Church, but he evidently had as much "plerophory" in his own powers of composition as in Henry Coleburne's merits.

The Registers record—

"Henry Coleburne, Scrivener, Jaundice, buried 9th August."

"Smyth's Obituary" says—

Henry Colborn Scrivener in Walbrook died Aug^t 8.

We shall now proceed to describe the Monuments that are still to be seen in the Church.

THOMAS BUSBY,
BURIED, JULY 11th, 1575.

The monument to this Cripplegate worthy is at the east end of the north wall, and is a fairly well executed half-length figure, in the dress of the period; his right hand resting upon a skull, and his left holding a pair of gloves. A Coat of Arms surmounting the whole.



On the tablet below is the following inscription:—

This Busbie willing to reeleve the Poore with Fire and with Breade
Did give that howse whearein he dyed, Then called y^e Queene's Heade
Foure full loades of y^e best Charcoles, he would have bought ech yeare
And fortie dosen of wheaten bread, for poore howsholders heare
To see these things distributed—this Busby put in trust
The Vicar and Church Wardenes, Thinkying them to be Just.
God grant that poore howsholders here may thankful be for such
So God will move the mindes of moe to doe for them as much
And let this Good Example move such men as God hath blest
To doe the like before they Goe with Busby to there rest
Within this Chappell, Busbies Bones in Dust awhile must stay
Till He that made them rayse them up to live with Christ for aye.

The entry in the Register is:—

Thomas Busby householder was buried the 11th day of July 1575.

Thomas Busby was one of the earliest benefactors of the poor of Cripplegate, and the wish expressed in the inscription just quoted, as well as his example, no doubt stimulated others to follow in his footsteps, as during the next half century many similar bequests were made. There seems to have been two houses devised by Busby's will, one the *Queene's Head*, mentioned in the inscription, was let for £10 per annum in 1649. A lease was granted in 1651, at an annual rent of £12 and £150 fine, which rent seems to have been paid for many years, but at the commencement of the present century both houses realized only £10 per annum. The property is under the control of the Joint Estate Trustees of St. Giles and St. Luke, for the benefit of the poor of both parishes, and is now of considerable value.

JOHN FOX,
DIED APRIL 18th, 1587.

John Fox, author of the famous "Book of Martyrs," lies buried in the chancel. At the north-west end of the church is a large stone slab inscribed as follows:—

CHRISTO. SS.
JOHANNI FOXO, ECCLESİÆ ANGLICANÆ
MARTYROLOGO FIDELISSIMO, ANTIQVI-
TATIS HISTORICÆ INDAGATORI SAGACIS-
SIMO, EVANGELICÆ VERITATIS PROPUGNAT-
ORI ACERRIMO, THAMATURGO ADMIRABILI,
QUI MARTYRES MARIANOS, TANQUAM
PHENICES EX CINERIBUS REDIVIVOS
PRÆSTITIT, PATRI SUO OMNI PIETATIS
OFFICIO INPRIMIS COLENDO, SAMUEL FOXUS, ILLIUS
PRIMOGENITUS, HOC MONUMENTUM POSUIT
NON SINE LACHRYMIS.

OBIT DIE XVIII MENS: APRIL AN^o
SALUTIS, 1587, IAM SEPTUAGENARIUS.

VITA VITÆ MORTALIS EST SPES
VITÆ IMMORTALIS.

A translation of the above is cut on a brass tablet fixed below the stone, as follows:—

JOHN FOXE.

The most faithful Martyrologist of the Church of England, the most sagacious investigator of Historical Antiquity, the most valiant Defender of the Evangelical Truth, a wondrous worker of Miracles, who presented the Marian Martyrs like Phœnixes, alive from their ashes.

Chiefly to fulfil every duty of filial affection, Samuel Foxe, his eldest son, erected this monument, not without tears.

He died the 18th of April, A.D. 1587, a septuagenarian.

The Life of mortal life, is the hope of Immortal Life.

It has been suggested that a better reading for a "wondrous worker of miracles," would be, "a wondrous wonder worker."

This stone tablet, although commemorating the fact that one of the most illustrious and worthy of Church of England Divines had found his last resting place within the church walls, was, until the year 1862, partly hidden by the wainscot in the chancel. An inscription, recently cut on the stone states that Fox was some time Vicar of the Parish, but this surely should be erased, as no warrant can be found for such a statement. He certainly lived in the parish, in Grub Street (now Milton Street), but the following should conclusively show that he was not Vicar of St. Giles:—The late Mr. Pratt, of Coleman Street, in the life prefixed to Fox's works, says "Tanner, in his *Bibliotheca*, states 'that he was for some time Vicar of Cripplegate,' but Fox's name does not appear amongst the list of persons paying first fruits."

From the chronological list of Vicars of Cripplegate, it will be seen that there really was not a time when he could have been Vicar; very probably he often assisted "Crowley," with whom in the matter of the habits he was in sympathy. He may also have been described as "Minister" of Cripplegate, as John Field is on the title-page of one of his books, or as the Curates who died in the time of Andrewes and Buckeridge are described in the Registers, as "Mynister of this Parish," or "Mynester of the Church."

John Fox was born at Boston, in Lincolnshire, in 1516. He took his degree at Oxford in 1538, and became a Fellow of Magdalen College in 1539. He left his College in 1545. Had he remained longer, by the conditions of his Fellowship, he must have taken orders, and the "six articles" (celibacy, transubstantiation, the King's supremacy, &c.) at that time stood in his way. He was appointed tutor in the family of Sir Thomas Lucy, of Charlecote, and in 1547 was married there. He is next found in London, in St. Paul's, in great distress, from which he is relieved by the kindness of the Duchess of Richmond, who takes him home to her house in Knightrider Street. By her influence, in 1548, Fox is appointed tutor to the children of the late Earl of Surrey, son of the Duke of Norfolk, and continues as such at Reigate, in Surrey, till 1553. In the meantime he is ordained Deacon by the Bishop of London, on 24th June, 1550, having taken up a temporary residence with the Duchess of Suffolk in Barbican for that purpose.

Edward VI died in 1553, Norfolk was released, and his grandchildren removed from Fox's care. By the help of his former pupil, afterwards Duke of Norfolk, Fox and his wife were enabled to escape to the Continent, where he resided for a time, working as a corrector for the press at Strasburg. He there published his first work on the history of the Church. From this he went to Frankfort, and afterwards to Basle, then famous for its printers and printing presses. Here he continued to work as a corrector for the press, and at the same time was busily engaged in collecting materials for his great work, "the Acts and Monuments of the Christian Church." While thus engaged, he represents himself in a letter as "reduced to his last penny." He did not return to England immediately on the Accession of Elizabeth, but remained for a time at Basle to publish the first edition of his "Acts and Monuments."

In October, 1559, he returns, and resides in the Duke of Norfolk's house in Aldgate. On January 25th, 1560, he is ordained Priest by the Bishop of London, but demurs to the use of the "habits." For three years after this he is with Parkhurst, Bishop of Norwich, and in 1563, when the first great English edition of his work was published, he was again in the Duke of Norfolk's house at Aldgate. In the following May he was appointed to the Prebend of Shipton, in Salisbury Cathedral, the first fruits of which he is obliged, from poverty, to ask the Queen to remit. In 1564 he is residing at John Day's, the printer, in Aldersgate Street, and in 1570 the second edition of his work is published. In this same year he preached his famous sermon, on Good Friday, at Paul's Cross. Next year the Convocation of Canterbury order a Copy of the "Acts and Monuments" to be placed in all the Churches, to be read and studied by the people, and in the same year Fox's house is in Grub Street. The third edition of his book was published in 1576, and the fourth in 1583. Worn out with his arduous labours, and well-known for his unstinted charity, he died 18th April, 1587, and was buried in the Chancel of St. Giles' Church, Cripplegate.

The entry in the Register is—

John Fox, householder, preacher was buried the 20th April 1587.

The following entries of Fox's family (?) occur:—

— Fox the d^r of Mr. John Fox was buried the 25th October 1578.

Annie Fox, widow in Grub Street (buried) 16th March 1598.

ROBERT GLOVER,

DIED 1588.

Robert Glover has been described as an "indefatigable searcher after Antiquities," his monument at the east-end of the south aisle is of marble, handsomely sculptured, varnished and gilt, with inscription as follows:—

DEO OPT. MAX: ET POSTERITATI SACRUM.

Roberto Glovero, alias Somerset feciali celebrissimo, Heraldicæ scientiæ et veritatis antiquæ vindici acerrimo, summam laudem et benevolentiam ob præclarum ingenium, peracre judicium ex multa veterum scriptorum (labore indefesso) perscrutatiæ, morum facilitatem vitæq: innocuæ sanctimoniam apud omnes consecuto: avunculo Chariss: Thomas Milles nepos amoris hoc monumentum mœrens posuit.

Robertus iste natus Ashfordiæ Cantii emporio, parentibus⁹ ingenuis liberaliter educatus, in multis apprime versatus heraldicæ unice peritiss: evasit, Fratrem unicum Gulielmum ex Tho: et Mildreda PPA: Sorores autem v. habuit. ex Elizabetha Flower conjuge v tantum superstites reliquit liberos, filios scilicet III filiasque II. Tandem, cum jam patriæ orbiq: post varia exantlata studia acuminis peritiæ et diligentie stupenda gustum insignem præbere atq: principi Sereniss: suis meritis gratissimus esse cœperit: x April M,CCCC,LXXXVIII ætatis suæ XLV, vitam ærumnosam cum morte pie et placide in uno Christo commutavit. Idq: omnium cum doctissimorum tum optimorum undiq: pro tanto literarum pietatis et virtutis alumno, dolore ac gemitu ut pote quem fata tantum terris ostendisse videantur, nec amplius esse sinant

R. G. Moriens ut viveret vixit ut moriturus.

The family arms surmount the inscription, with motto—

"Tolerandum et Sperandum."

The entries in the Registers are as follows:—

Robert Sommerset als Glover, gentleman, buried 13th April, 1588.

Thomas [Glover] als Somerset, y^e son of Mr. Somerset Harold, christened 23rd June, 1576.

John Glover, sonne of Robert Glover als Somerset, Christened 22^d March 1580-1.

Robert Glover, son of Robert Glover als Sommerset harolde of Arms, Gent. Christened 18th September 1586.

Under the Monument is a brass plate, stating that this inscription having become obliterated by time has been restored, from motives of high respect for the memory of Mr. Glover, as well as for the College of Heralds, collectively and individually, by Frederick Henry Barnwell, F.S.A., of Bury St. Edmunds, in Suffolk, who has received considerable

pleasure from the Ordinary in Edmondson's Heraldry, as well as from frequent sight of the original MSS. of Arms compiled by this eminent person and attested, now in possession of Sir Thomas Gery Cullum, Bart., of Hardwick House, in the same county, A.D. MDCCCXXV.

There are a few misprints in the restoration, such as CANTH for CANTII, GUSEV for GUSTV, VLTAM for VITAM, TEM for UE.II, which the next restorer may see put to rights. An instance or two of similar mistakes occur on Fox's and on Cage's Monuments.

SIR MARTIN FROBISHER.



The present year being the Tercentenary of the Defeat of the Great Spanish Armada, the Vestry of St. Giles, Cripplegate, thought that it would be an opportune time to place a memorial in the Church to one who played such a gallant part in that momentous struggle. The design as shown above has been approved, and the monument is in course of execution. When finished it will be placed on the wall in the south aisle.

As will be seen, the design is of Elizabethan character. The marbles used are Dove for the backing, Sienna for the portion surrounding the statuary panel, Irish green for the pilasters, and Sicilian for the other portions. The upper tablet contains the following lines:—

Attend all ye who list to hear our noble England's praise,
I tell of the thrice famous deeds she wrought in ancient days;
When that great fleet invincible, against her bore in vain,
The richest spoils of Mexico, the stoutest hearts of Spain.—(*Macaulay.*)

The centre is occupied by a three-masted ship of the period, with a background of Arctic and West Indian scenery, thus indicating Frobisher's share not only in defeating the Invincible Armada, but also his work in the two regions named. On the lower tablet is the following inscription:—

Within this Church lie the remains of
SIR MARTIN FROBISHER, KNIGHT,
one of the first to explore
The Arctic Regions and The West Indies.
Having gained great glory
by his skill and bravery in the Naval engagements
which terminated in the defeat of the
Great Spanish Armada, 1588,
he died from wounds received in Action off Brest,
22nd November, 1594.

This Monument was erected
in honour of his memory
by the
Vestry of St. Giles, Cripplegate,
1888.

Martin Frobisher was born of a good family at Doncaster about 1530-40; early in life he embraced the profession of the mariner, and eventually became one of those great naval adventurers who carried England's flag triumphantly over every sea, and who finally crushed the



FAC-SIMILE OF FROBISHER'S SIGNATURE.

power of Spain, the then boastful mistress of the seas. Frobisher was the first of our great Arctic explorers. In 1576 he left England in command of two tiny vessels of 25 tons each, to search for a north-west passage to India. As many others have since done, he failed in this object, but made discoveries that others have profited by, and one portion of the sea in the Arctic zone still bears his name. He then served with Drake in the West Indies, and returned in time to take part

in defeating the Great Armada, in which great fight he so distinguished himself that he was the first of six who received then and there, at the hands of Lord Howard of Effingham, the honour of Knighthood. The power of Spain thus being temporarily crushed, he probably spent some time ashore, Cripplegate being, no doubt, again honoured with his presence, as just before this time Sir Humphrey Gilbert, with whom Frobisher is known to have been intimate, resided there, as also did Sir Roger Townsend, who was knighted at the same time as Frobisher, and many of the great naval adventurers of the time no doubt congregated here round him. At any rate, Frobisher must have had some connection with the Church and Parish, for although dying at Plymouth, we find him brought *home* to London—to Cripplegate—to be buried.

In 1594 he was in command of a squadron sent to support Henry IV of France against the Leaguers and Spaniards. When off Brest he received a wound, from the effects of which he shortly afterwards died, in Plymouth. An entry occurs in the Register Book of St. Andrews, Plymouth, as follows:—

On the 22nd Novemb. 1594.—Sir Martin Frobisher, Knight, being at the Fort built against Brest, by the Spaniards, deceased at Plymouth this day, whose entrails were here interred, but his Corpse was carried hence to be buried in London.

The entry in St. Giles Cripplegate register book is as follows:—

Sr. Martyn Furbusher Knight (buried) 14 Jan^y. 1594-5.



CHARLES LANGLEY,
DIED, JUNE, 1602.

The tablet that perpetuates the memory of Charles Langley is placed very appropriately near to that of Busby on the north wall, for it may well be that Busby's example inspired Langley with the desire of also

helping his poor neighbours. The inscription on both breathes the same spirit throughout.

The inscription runs as follows :—

With in this Ile lieth buried the bodie of
CHARLES LANGLEY,
Some time of this Parische, Ale Brewer,
Who was buried the 8th day of June, Anno Dñi 1602,
And did give bountefully to the poore of this Parische.

If Langlie's life thou liste to knowe reade on and take a viewe
Of Faith and Hope I will not speake his work shall shew them treue.
Whoe whilst he lived, wth counsaile grave, y^e better sorte did guid
A stay to weake, a staffe to poore, wthout back-bite or pride.
And when he died he gave his mite all that did him befall
For ever once a yere to cloathe Saint Giles poore withall.
All Saintes hee pointed for the day *gownes xx redie made
Wth xx shirts, and xx smockes as they may best be hadd.
A sermond eke he hath ordayned that God may have his praiese
And others might be wonne thereby to followe Langlies waies.
On Vicar and Churchwardens then his truste he hath reposed
As they will answer him one day when all shalbe disclosed.
Thus beinge deade, yet still he lives lives never for to dye
In heaven's blysse, in worlde's fame and so I trust shall I.

LANCELOTT ANDREWE, *Vicar.*

JOHN TAYLOR, W^m. HEWETT, EDWARD SICKLYN, RICHARD MAYE,
Churchwardens.

The entry in the Register is as follows :—

Mr. Charles Langley, Householder, Brewer, buried 8th June, 1602.

Charles Langley gave by his will to the Vicar and Churchwardens for ever six messuages and tenements of the yearly value of £48 per annum, for the purpose of clothing forty poor men and poor women of Cripplegate. In the course of time the poor of the parish have further largely benefited by Langley's will. The income now is about £800 per annum, and is managed by the Joint Estate Trustees of St. Giles and St. Luke.

Langley was for some years a Vestryman of the Parish, and at one time Churchwarden; his signature continually occurs as having been present at the audit of Sworder's Accounts.

* A curious account is given on pp. 209-10 of the cost of making these "gownes," and "shirts."

Near the north side of the chancel arch, but hidden by the organ, is a neat marble slab, containing the following inscription :—

ROGER MASON,

Of this parish, Citizen and Vintner of London, gave to the poor of the freedom of this parish £200, wherewith a yearly rental of £16, or thereabouts, is purchased for ever, to be bestowed on ten gowns of black cloth, lined, to be distributed yearly to ten poor men of the freedom of this parish, upon All Saints' day, at the discretion of the Vicar and Churchwardens of the time being.

He DIED the 3rd day of SEPTEMBER, 1603,

Aged 37 Years.

Which £200 his wife, Jane, faithfully paid and joined the erection of this monument.

Set up Anno 1606.

This bequest is under the management of the Joint Estate Trustees.

The entry in the Register is :—

Roger Mason, Householder, Vintner, buried 6th September, 1603.

This was one of the Plague years, and the Registers show that 26 burials took place the same day, 36 the day before, and 26 the day after, so that it is probable he was a victim to the visitation.

WILLIAM DAY,

DIED 22nd SEPTEMBER, 1603.

This monumental slab has recently been removed from behind the organ and placed at the west end of the south aisle.

The inscription is as follows :—

WILLIAM DAIE,

Citizen and Vintener of London,

The Sone of Thomas Daye, of Boseham in Sussex, gent., and Elizabeth,
his wife,

Gave to y^e poore of this parishe £80, wh^h was paid by his brother, George Daie, wherewith an yearely rent of £6, or thereabout, is purchased for ever, to be bestowed on coots of green cloth, to be distributed yearely upon poore orphanes, upon All Saunt day, at the discretion of y^e Vicor & Churchwardens for y^e time beinge—

He lyeth buried in his parish church of St. Michael, in Cornehill, and

DIED SEPTEMB. 22, 1603.

32 Aetat : suæ.

Sett up Ann : 1606 Maye the viii day.

The space for numbers is vacant on the monument as printed.

This bequest is under the management of the Joint Estate Trustees of St. Giles and St. Luke.

MATTHEW PALMER,
DIED 1605.

The monument to Matthew Palmer is placed under the clock in the north aisle, and consists of the recumbent figures of the deceased and his wife, and in the panel below their five children, kneeling; immediately below which is the original inscription and a well-designed Cherub. Underneath all is a tablet with the inscription added in 1712 (*see next page*). The whole monument is small compared with "Harvist's" and others of the same date, but the figures are beautifully sculptured and in an excellent state of preservation.



The original inscription was as follows :—

Here lyeth the body of Mathew Palmer, Esq^r. who died y^e 18th of May, 1605, together wth Anne, his wife, who died y^e laste day of June, 1630, by whome he had four sonnes and one daughter, viz. :—Thomas Palmer, his eldest sonne, deceased, the fift of May, 1631, and here also buried, Elizabeth, Edward, Andrew and Ralfe, who, when it also pleaseth God, desire this place for the custodie of their bodies, likewise, till their assured and glorious resurrection.

There seems to be no mention in the parish records (excepting in the Register of Burials) of his name, or of any work done by him for the parish or church that received his remains, but he was evidently of some note. Stow speaks highly of him, and describes his Coat of Arms.

The following was added to the inscription in 1712 :—

M. S.

This is a very ancient family, and originally of Winthorpe, in Lincolnshire, bearing for their arms—

Argent three pilgrims' staves sable, y^e heads and points or, and for their crest, being placed above an helmet, a mans arms coupéd, y^e sleeve azure, cuff argent, and hand proper holding a palmer's staff, sable, garnish'd or. He whose monument this is was of Cotes, in Nottinghamshire, and had an honourable employment in y^e Exchequer. His wife was Anne, y^e daughter of Roger Raven, Esq^r, whose arms were argent, a raven rising proper, by whome he had issue y^e Children above mentioned, Edward lyes here interred, as likewise does Matthew Palmer, Esq^r, of ye Middle Temple, ye son of that Edward. Andrew Palmer, Esq^r (a person of approved loyalty), of Hertford, was bury^d here too, who by Elizabeth, sister to Baldwin Hamey, of London, M.D., left one son, Ralf Palmer, Esq., of Little Chelsey, in y^e County of Midd^{sex}, who by Alice White (of y^e family of that learned prelate D^r. Francis White, sometime L^d. B^p. of Ely), had issue Ralph Palmer Esq^r, of y^e Middle Temple, who repaired this monument of his ancestors, A.D. 1712, having at that time a son born, Ralph Palmer, by Cathrine sole issue of Sir John Ernle, K^t (sometime Chancellor of the Exchequer), by his second lady, Elizabeth, relict of Chariles L^d. Seymour. His youngest son, Ralph Palmer, Esq^r, died a bachelor, and lyes interred in a porch of his own erecting at Broxborne Church, in the county of Hertford.

The entries in the Register are :—

Mathew Palmer, Gent. (Buried), 23rd May, 1605.

Mr. Thomas Palmer, Gentleman (Buried) 7th May, 1631.

EDWARD HARVIST,

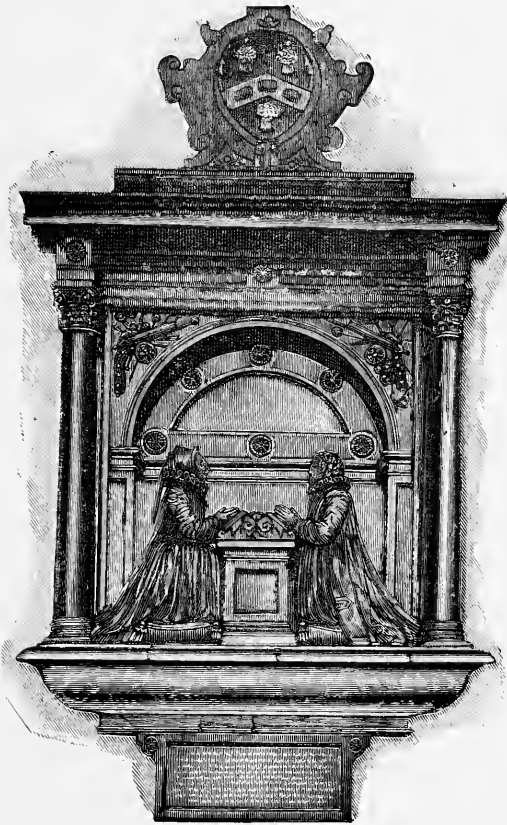
14th MARCH, 1610.

This handsome monument which from "tyme out of mind" had been on the north wall at the east end, has, since the organ was fixed in its present position, been entirely hidden. Recently, however, it has been removed and placed in its present position over the north door. Of marble, originally white, it has suffered with others by being varnished, or painted and gilt.

It is a fine and spacious monument with finely carved figures of the deceased and his wife kneeling at either side of a desk. The columns and entablature are well designed and executed—the enrichments consisting of cannon and other implements of warfare—in keeping with his position as one of "His Majesty's Gunners." The whole is surmounted with the Arms, presumably intended for those of the Brewers' Company, but treated somewhat differently to the arms now in use by that Company.

The entry in the Register is:—

Edward Harvist, Brewer (Buried) 14th March, 1610-11.



The inscription is as follows:—

Here lyeth the body of
EDWARD HARVIST,
Citizen and Brewer of London, Alderman's Deputie, of this Parish, and
One of His Ma^{ty}s. Gunners,
And ANN, his beloved wyfe.

THEY WERE BOTHE VERY CHARITABLE PERSONS AS IN GIVING LAND TO
THIS PARRISHE PERPETUALLY FOR Y^E RELEFE OF THE POORE WIDOW; AS
ALSO LAND TO THE COMPANIE WHEREOF HE WAS FREE FOR Y^E MENDING
OF Y^E HIGHWAY BETWEENE EDGWER & PADINGTON. HE GAVE
GREATE LEGACIES TO HIS POORE KINDRED
AND DEPARTED THIS LYFE Y^E 14TH OF MARCH, 1610. SHE DEPARTED THIS
LYFE Y^E 24TH OF MAY, 1610
EXPECTING BOTHE A GLORIOUS RESURRECTION IN JESUS CHRIST.

Edward Harvist left no legacy to the Parish, but his wife, who died shortly after him, gave by her Will "Four tenements in Mugwell (Monkwell) Street yielding £20 per annum rent, which she directed to be distributed to twenty poor widows, at every quarter of a year 5s., during one whole year, and then twenty other widows the next year, changing every year." This bequest is now of the value of £250 per annum, and is part of the Joint Estate Trusts.

ROBERT CAGE.

On the wall near the western end of the north aisle is an exceedingly handsome marble monument adorned with entablature, pyramidal pillars, death's head, &c., and on either side two well-designed cherubs. The inscription in bold Roman gilt characters is as follows:—

MEMORIAE SACRŪ
HIC IACET ROBERTUS
CAGE, ARMIGER, OMNIUM
LITERARUM HOMO, VITA
INTEGER MORTE CHRISTI-
ANUS NEC DUM MORTUUS
NAM IN MEMORIA ETER-
NA ERIT JUSTUS.

SOLUS CHRISTUS MIHI SOLA SALUS.
ANO DNI 1625.

The entry in the Register is:—

Mr. Robert Cage, Gentleman (buried) 22nd November, 1624.

CONSTANCE WHITNEY,
BURIED MAY 25TH, 1628.

This very curious monument on the wall in the north aisle has given rise to much speculation as to its meaning. It represents a woman in her grave clothes rising from her coffin, and with hands outstretched receiving from a cherub on each side a crown and a chaplet. It is no doubt intended to be emblematic of the Resurrection; but a legend has been handed down from one church custodian to another, that "it represents a woman awakening from a trance, into which she had fallen, and in which state she had been buried. The Sexton in his desire to possess himself of a valuable ring she wore, cut her finger to obtain it, and in doing so, awakened and saved her from a horrible death." It is further stated that she returned home to her husband, and became the mother of several children, but the fact that the inscription

on the monument states, amongst other things, that she died at the early age of 17, is surely inconsistent with such a tale.



There is no date given on the monument, but the Registers record "*Mrs.* Constance Whitney, (Buried) May 25th, 1628." The title *Mrs.* or *Mistress* was not restricted then, as now, to married ladies.

The inscription on the representation of a coffin runs as follows :—

TO THE MEMORIE

Of Constance Whitney, eldest daughter to S^r. Robert Whitney, of Whitney, the proper possession of him and his ancestors, in Herefordshire for above 500 yeeres past. Her mother was the fowrth daughter of Sir Thomas Lucy of Charlecote, in Warwickshire, by Constance Kingsmel, daughter and heyre of Richard Kingsmel, surveiour of the Court of Wardes, this lady Lucy her grandmother soe bred her, since shee was 8 years old, that shee excelled in all noble qualities becomminge a Virgin :

of so sweete proportion of beauty and harmonie of parts,
 shee had all sweetnesse of manners answerable,
 a delightfull sharpeness of witt,
 an offenses modestie of conversation,
 a singuler respect and pietie to her parents,
 but religious even to example.

She departed this life most Christianly at seaventeene, dyeing the greife of all, but to her grandmother an unrecoverable loss, save in her expectation shee shall not stay long after her, and the comfort of knowing whose shee is, and where in the resurrection to meete her.

JOHN SPEED,

DIED JULY 28TH, 1629.

The monument to John Speed is placed on the wall near the western end of the south aisle, and consists of a half-length bust in a cabinet with the doors thrown open. Upon one of them is the inscription in Latin relating to Speed, on the other a similar inscription to his wife—

PLÆ MEMORIA

CHARISSIMORVM PARENTVM

IOHANNIS SPEED CIVIS LONDINEN-
 -SIS MERCATORVM SCISSORVM FRA-
 -TRIS SERVI FIDELISSIMI REGIARVM
 MAGESTATVM ELIZÆ, IACOBL (*sic*) ET
 CAROLI NVNC SUPERSTITIS:
 TERRARVM NOSTRARVM GEOGRA-
 -PHI ACURATI ET FIDI ANTIQVITA-
 -TIS BRITANNICÆ HISTRIOGRAPHI
 GENELOGIÆ SACRÆ ELEGANTIS-
 -SIMI DELINEATORIS; QVI POSTQVAM
 ANNOS 77 SUPERAVERAT, NON TAM
 MORBO CONFECTVS QVAM MORTA-
 LITATIS TÆDIO LASSATVS CORPORE
 SE LEVAVIT IULII 28. 1629. ET
 IVCVNDISSIMO REDEMPTORIS SVI
 DESIDERIO SVRSVM ELATVS.
 CARNEM HIC IN CVSTODIAM
 DEPOSUIT; DENUO CVM CHRISTVS
 VENERIT RECEPTVRVS.

SVSANNÆ SVÆ SVAVISSIMÆ;
 QUÆ POSTQVAM DVODECIM
 ILLI FILIOS ET SEX FILIAS PEPE-
 RERAT: ANNOS QVINQVAGINTA
 SEPTEM IVNCTIS VTRIVSQVE
 SOLATIIS CVM ILLO VIXERAT:
 LIBEROS: GRAVI ET FREQVENTI
 HORTAMINE, AD DEI CVLTVM
 SOLLICITAVERAT; PIETATIS ET
 CHARITATIS OPERE QVOTIDIANO
 PRÆLVXERAT, EMORI DEMVM
 ERVDIT SVO EXEMPLO; QVÆ
 SEPTVAGENARIA PLACIDE IN
 CHRISTO OBDORMIVIT ET FIDÊ
 SVÆ MERCEDEM HABVIT MARTII
 VIGESSIMO OCTAVO AO. DÕNI
 MILLESSIMO SEXCENTESSIMO
 VIGESSIMO OCTAVO.

The inscription in effect states that he was a faithful servant of Queen Elizabeth, King James I, and King Charles I, and died July 28th, 1629, aged 77; and that his wife brought him twelve sons and six daughters,

and after she had lived with her husband 57 years died between the 70th and 80th year of her age, March 28th, 1628.



Speed was a member of the Merchant Taylors' Company, and by the help of patrons devoted his life to historic research. His great work, entitled "*The History of Great Britaine under the Conquests of y^e Romans, Danes and Normans,*" was first published in 1611. A second edition appeared, with additions and a Dedication to K. James, in 1623; and a third, in 1633. It is a most voluminous and carefully written book, and must have cost the writer many years' continuous labour. This magnificent work is enriched by hundreds of well-cut engravings of the coins and medals of the different Kings.

The dedication of his *History* to King James is a specimen of (what now appears to us) excessively fulsome writing, however fashionable and necessary it may have been in Speed's day. It is as follows:—

To the most High and most Potent Monarch James of Great Britaine, France, and Ireland, King; the most constant and most learned defender of the Faith; inlarger and uniter of the British Empire; restorer of the British name; establisher of perpetual peace in Church and Commonwealth; president of all princely vertues and noble arts;

JOHN SPEED,

His Majestie's most lowly and most loyal subject and servant, consecrateth these his labours, though unworthy the aspect of so high and Imperiall Majestie.

Entries concerning Speed in the Registers are as follows :—

Susan, wife of John Speed, Gent^r (buried) 31st March 1628.

M^r. John Speed Merchantalor (buried) 31st July 1629.

Joseph, the sonne of John Speede, Merchant Tailor (buried) Jan. 11, 1593.

MARGARET LUCY,
DIED NOVEMBER, 1634.

There is a neat monument in the chancel to the above named lady, who was great grand-daughter of Sir Thomas Lucy, of Charlecotte, in Warwickshire, whom Shakespeare described as

“ A Parliament man, a justice of peace,
At home a poor scarecrow, in London an ass.”

The inscription on the monument is as follows :—

Here lies Margaret Lucy, the second daughter of S^r. Thomas Lucy of Charlecott in the county of Warwicke Knight, (the third by imediate discent of y^t name of Thomas) by Alice sole daughter, and heire of Thomas Spencer of Clarendon in the same county Esq^r. and Custos Brevium of the Courte of Common Pleas at Westminster, who departed this life the 18th day of November 1634, and aboute the 19th year of her age ; for discretion and sweetnesse of conversation, not many excelled, and for pietie and patience in her sicknesse, and death few equalled her ; which is the comfort of her neearest friends, to every of whom she was very deare, but especially to her old Grand mother, the LADY CONSTANCE LUCY, under whose goverment she died, who having long expected every day to have gone before her, doth now trust by faith and hope in the precious blood of CHRIST JESUS, shortly to follow after and be partaker together with her and others of the unspeakable and eternal joyes in his blessed Kingdome : to whom be all honour, laud and praise, now and for ever. Amen.

Margaret Lucy and Constance Whitney were cousins, and seem to have been brought up together by their grandmother. They both died young—Margaret Lucy at the age of 19, and Constance Whitney at 17. (*See page 88.*)

The entry in the Register is :—

Margret daug^r. of Sir Thomas Lucie, Knight (buried) 18th Nov^r. 1634.

WILLIAM STAPLE.

By the side of the above monument is one of white marble with neat sculptured ornaments. The inscription in bold characters is as follows :—

PIÆ MEMORIÆ
WILLMI STAPLE,
IN ARTIBUS MAGISTRI
VIRI ADMODUM
DOCTI & RELIGIOSI,
QUI OBIIT 3^o SEPT.
1650.

QUOD CUM CÆLICOLIS HABITAS PARS ALTERA NOSTRI
NON DOLET ; HIC TANTUM ME SUPERESSE DOLET.
SARA UXOR EJUS MÆSTISSIMA POSUIT.

This is the monument referred to in “Smyth’s Obituary.” (*See page 100.*)

The Register runs:—

Willi: Staples, Skoolemaster in Grub Street 6th Sept^r. 1650.

“Smyth’s Obituary” gives—

Mr. Staple, Schoolmaster in Grub Street died 4th Sep^r.

EDMUND HARRISON,

DIED 1666.

Near the middle of the north wall is a large marble tablet, heavily ornamented, on which is the following lengthy inscription:—

Nere this pillar lyeth interred y^e body of Edmund Harrison, Esq., late of this parish, who, having lived above 40 yeeres a batcheloar, had to wife Jane, y^e eldest daughter of Thomas Godfrey, late of Hodiford, in y^e county of Kent, Esq^r. by whom he had issue 12 sonnes and 9 daughters, of w^{ch} at y^e time of his death were only living 3 sonnes, Godfrey, Edmund, and Peter, and 2 daughters, Sarah and Jane. He was embroiderer to 3 Kings, viz^t. K. James, K. Charles 1st, and K. Charles 2nd, left y^e troubles of this world y^e 9th day of January, 1666, in y^e 77 yeare of his age, in a Christian assurance of a resurrection unto life eternall, to who’s memorie his eldest sonn Godfrey erected this monument.

Suis et sibi constans *Deo Regi et legi* fidus obtemperator

Aetate Civis et prudentia vere venerandus.

Prole multæ spei numerosa ut conjugio felix dives

Rem suis bene partam et liberam reliquit.

Patriæ non minus indulgens quam Familiæ Pater

Senio fessus et confectus tandem occubuit,

ut reffectus resurgat.

Ex impensa Johis Harrison Ar. : fil: prædict:

Godfridi def: decoratur 1704.

Concerning Harrison’s appointment as Embroiderer, the following (from the Public Record Office) may be interesting:—

A grant with survivorship was made on September 13, 1621, to John Shepley and Edmund Harrison, on surrender of John Shepley of the office of Embroiderer to the King.

After the Restoration, on 14th August, 1660, Harrison petitioned Charles II to be admitted Embroiderer to His Majesty again, an office which he had held under King James, representing that he has £4,000 due to him for embroidery from the late King; that he is 70 years of age, and has 21 children. The Company of Embroiderers certify as to his skill, that he is the ablest workman living, and as to his loyalty, that he preserved the King’s best Cloth of State, and his rich Carpet, Embroidered with Pearl, from being cut in pieces or burnt, and that he restored these and many other goods to His Majesty.

A Warrant follows on this to pay Edmund Harrison, the King’s Embroiderer, £34 1s. 0d. yearly, for his livery, and another to pay him £159 12s. 0d. for Embroidering 250 Coats for the Yeomen of the Chamber, Yeoman Waiters of the Tower, Yeomen of the Robes and Wardrobes, and 42 Messengers of the Chamber.

But notwithstanding his skill and loyalty and restoration to office, it would seem that two other Embroiderers, by means possibly not unusual in that Court, had unduly obtained a patent for his place. The Attorney and Solicitor-General report that

Harrison had duly obtained a judgment in Chancery against his opponents (execution was being delayed on technical points), that the petitioner Harrison would best be relieved by a letter to the Lord Chancellor, with order to see to the speedy execution of judgment.

In November following there follows a grant, with Survivorship to William Rutlish and Charles Pinckney (his opponents), on surrender of Edmund Harrison of the office of Embroiderer. It had probably been made worth Harrison's while to surrender.

Harrison's name frequently appears at Vestry meetings, and he signs the Annual Audit of 1663 as one of the Auditors.

The Register runs as follows :—

Edmund Harrison, Embroiderer, apoplexy, Church, Jany. 15, 1666-7.

JOHN MILTON,

DIED 8th NOVEMBER, 1674.

Of all the monuments in the church, that of John Milton, the poet, is the most interesting. The fact that such a monument exists, and that the poet's remains rest within the walls, has drawn thousands of admiring pilgrims from all parts of the world to the church.

Milton's history is so well known, that it would be superfluous to do more than refer to the leading events of his life, and point out his residences in the parish, for which Professor Masson's full and complete life, supplies material.

Born in Bread Street in 1608, he received his early education in St. Paul's School, whence at the age of 16, he proceeded to Christ's College, Cambridge. On taking his degree of M.A. in 1632, he left his college and retired to his father's house in Buckinghamshire, where he remained for about five years, and composed several of his minor poems. Several years were spent in travel in Italy, whence he returned to England just as the troubles between King and Parliament were commencing. Into these, he threw all his energies, writing voluminously, chiefly on religious subjects, and in defence of liberty, both of Thinking and Printing. He resided in Aldersgate Street from 1641 to 1645. "One," says Professor Masson, "would like to determine on which side of the street his residence was; the old maps give the impression that there was most room for 'garden houses' on the right side, and particularly near Golden Lion Court." The matter is uncertain. The house there became too small for his purposes, and he removed in September, 1645, to Barbican, near to which (where Bridgewater Square

now is) that Earl of Bridgewater had his town house to whom—when President of Wales, and residing in Ludlow Castle—Milton presented one of his works, *Comus*, a *Mask*.

The house in Barbican was pointed out as “Milton’s House,” down to the making of the Metropolitan Railway in 1865. To this house his young wife was brought home; there his first child, Anne, was born on 29th July, 1646, and from the same house his father-in-law, Richard Powell, and his father, John Milton, were buried in St. Giles’ Church, on 1st January and 15th March, 1646–7, respectively, as the burial registers show :—

Richard Powell, gentleman, 1st January, 1646–7.

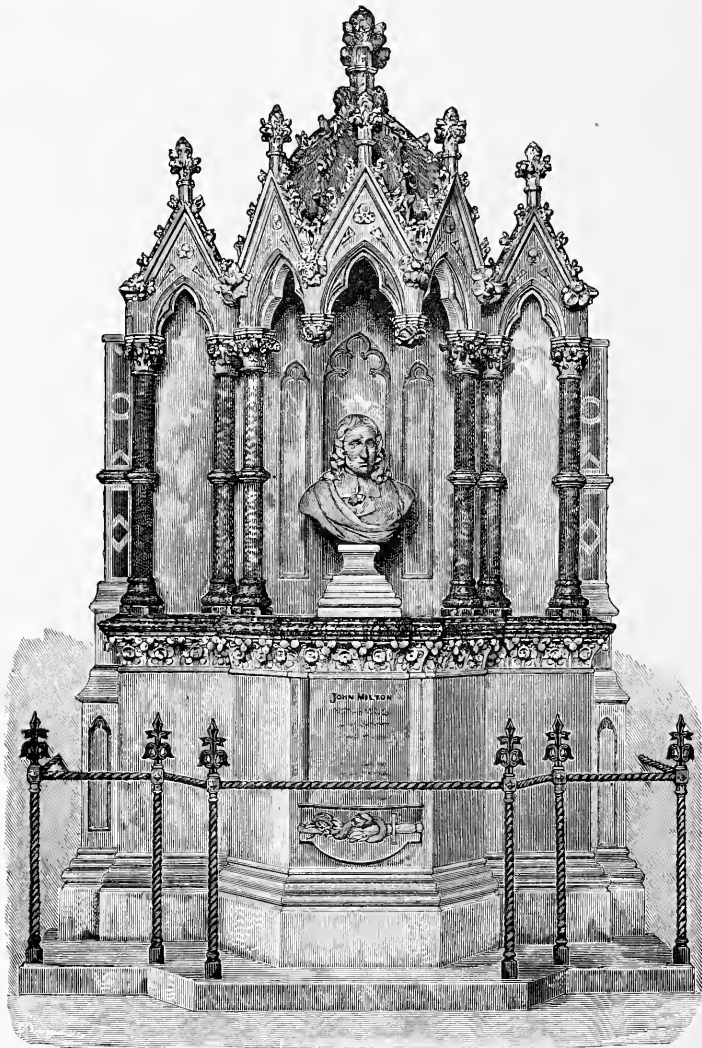
John Milton, gentleman, 15th March, 1646–7.

While residing here, “Poems by Mr. John Milton, both English and Latin,” were published by Mosely, in 1645. In September, 1647, he moved to High Holborn, to one of those houses that open backwards on Lincoln’s Inn Fields. Now came his call to official work in his country’s service, and in assisting her to attain the greatness she enjoyed under Cromwell’s rule, using his pen so well, that it has been described “as terrible as Cromwell’s sword.” In 1649, he removed to Charing Cross, and next year to an official residence in Whitehall. In December, 1651, he is residing at Petty France, Westminster, where he remained till the Restoration of 1660. But he, whose pen had been “so terrible,” must have known he was now a marked man. He left Petty France in 1660, and remained in hiding for three months and three weeks in Bartholomew Close. On the passing of the Amnesty Act, in 1660, he resided for a few months at Holborn, and in the same year came back to Cripplegate—to Jewin Street. Here he remained until 1664, when he removed to Artillery Row, Bunhill Fields, opposite the Artillery garden wall. A walk ran along the west side of this wall; on the other side of the walk were twelve houses of varying sizes, and in the ninth of these Milton resided, but whether ninth from Chiswell Street end, or the other, is not known. During the plague of 1665, he removed for a time to Chalfont St. Giles. In 1667, while in Artillery Row, “Paradise Lost” was published; “Paradise Regained,” and “Samson Agonistes” followed in 1671. Here also he died on 8th November, 1674, and was buried next his father in the chancel of St. Giles’ Church.

The following is the entry of the burial in the Registers :—

John Milton, gentleman, Consumption, chancel, 12 (November).

The memorial shrine of Milton is placed in the south aisle, directly facing the north door of the church. Beneath its canopy, is a bust giving a striking likeness of the poet, the work of John Bacon, a noted sculptor,



who executed about the same time (1793) the monuments of William Pitt, Earl of Chatham, in Westminster Abbey, and in the Guildhall, City of London. The bust was the gift of Samuel Whitbread, Esq., head of the great brewing firm in Cripplegate, and a respected member

of Parliament. It was originally placed on one of the columns on the north side, near to the tablet on the floor of the centre aisle, close to which Milton's remains lie. Before the alterations to the church in 1791, the chancel extended to this column.

As will be seen from engraving on preceding page, the bust of Milton is enclosed in a canopied shrine of Caen stone, elaborately carved and supported by columns, composed of different coloured marbles, granite and alabaster. The whole is 12 feet in height, and nearly 8 feet wide at the base. This was designed by the late Mr. Edmund Woodthorpe, and carried out in 1862 under his superintendence. A tablet on the base has the following inscription :—

JOHN MILTON,
AUTHOR OF PARADISE LOST.
BORN DECEMBER, 1608. DIED NOVEMBER, 1674.
His Father JOHN MILTON, DIED MARCH, 1646.
They were both interred in this Church.

Below are capitally designed and executed symbols of the fall and expulsion from Paradise, represented by the serpent with the fatal apple in its mouth and by the flaming sword.

RICHARD SMITH.

This monument is now on the south wall, to which it has recently been removed from the north-east corner behind the Organ. Originally it was on the second pillar from the east end, on the north side of the middle aisle. The inscription is as follows :—

MR. RICHARD SMITH,
DECEASED THE 26TH MARCH, 1675, AGED 85.

Nere this place lyeth intered M^{rs}. Elizabeth Smith the wife of M^r. Richard Smith; sometyes Secondary of the Poultry Comptor by whom shee had 5 sons and 3 daughters wherof 2 only survived her. Her life was pious and religious towards God, blameless towards men, exceedingly pitifull and charitable to y^e poor and distressed. Prudent and provident in the ordering her family having a great care and tender affection to her husband and to the instruction of her children and children's children in the Feare of the Lord, shee dyed the 25th of May 1664 aged 64 years.

Here also lyes buried two of her sonnes John Smith the eldest, beloved of all men for his affable Deportment, admired for his more than ordinary gifts of Nature, He dyed (to y^e great grief of his parents and friends) the 6th of May 1655 aged 32 yeares. And Richard the younger died in the 17th year of his age the 10th of August 1653. In commemoration of whom their tender and loving mother willed this monument to bee erected w^{ch} after her death was (by her appointment) at her owne private cost (by her friends) performed.

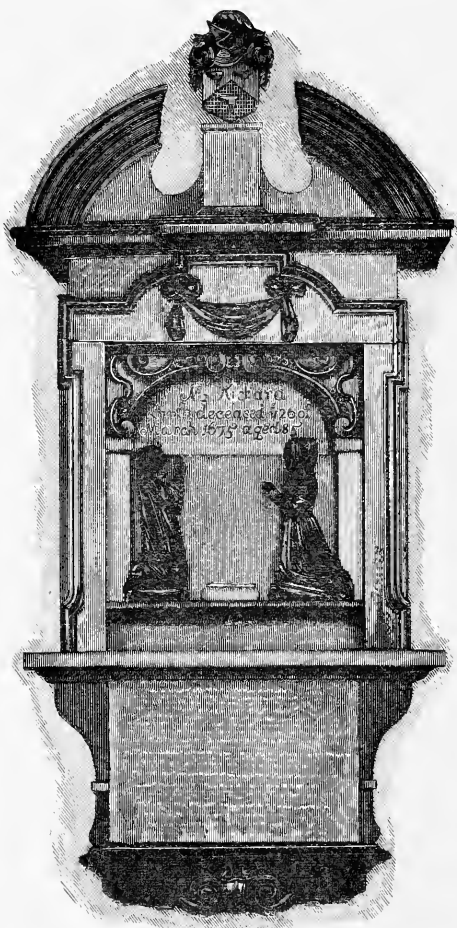
The entries in the Registers are as follows :—

Rich : sonne of Rich: Smith Gent. 12th Aug. 1653.

John Smith, Gent—Consumption 9th May 1655.

Elizabeth wife of Richard Smith, Gentleman, Jaundice, Church, 28th May 1664.

Richard Smith Gentleman, Aged, Church, 1st April 1675.



The monument, like most of the others in the Church, is of white marble, varnished over (the tablet on which the inscription is cut is of slate), and contains the figures of man and wife in the attitude of prayer. Some writers say “kneeling on each side of a desk, on which is a skull”; this desk and skull are not now to be found, neither are the recumbent figures of the two sons, which they also mention.

The Arms of the deceased surmount the whole, which, heraldically described, are per chev. ar. and sa., three anvils counter changed. The crest is an ostrich issuing out of a mural coronet, but no crest appears on the monument.

Mr. Smith, or Smyth (*see* fac-simile of signature to his will) was a great antiquary and scholar. He was assiduous in searching for old books, the margins of which he covered with remarks. He was great as a compiler, several of his autographs being preserved in that portion of the Bagford Collection included in the Sloane MSS. at the British Museum. He wrote Essays on religious subjects, and one upon the origin of Printing. Only one, upon "The Descent into Hell," has been printed. For his biography, *see* "Wood's Athenæ Oxonienses." His library, which was very choice and extensive, in spite of efforts to preserve it intact, was publicly sold after his death. After 1649 he lived in Little Moorfields. From the year 1627 until his death he entered in a Diary the names of persons of his acquaintance who died—many of whom were inhabitants of Cripplegate. This curious and valuable work has been published by the Camden Society, and is known as "Smyth's Obituary."

The following are a few curious entries extracted from it, chiefly relating to St. Giles, Cripplegate, and may be found interesting (other extracts are given when speaking of the Plague, page 22):—

EXTRACTS FROM SMYTH'S OBITUARY.

- Jan. 30, 1649.—King Charles beheaded at Westminster by his traitorous subjects.
 Mar. 22, 1649-50.—M^r. Torshell preacher at Criplegate died; was son of M^{rs}. Torshell midwife.
 Mar., 1653.—M^r. John de Gret brewer in Red Cross Street died sodenly in his bed at night having been at chur. y^t day.
 July 27, 1653.—Cap^t. Jones our neighbor in Morefields.
 Mar. 21, 1657.—M^r. Carter preacher at Stⁱ. Giles Criplegate.
 May 13, 1659.—Dean Fuller, Vicar of Criplegate Parish, died.
 Mar. 19, 1662.—M^{is}. Franklyn in Ropemakers alley—a woman very free of her tongue.
 Sept. 15, 1662.—Stephen Fawcett, Surgeon in Wood Street, wth a good name of an honest and pious man, who in his time sett up a lecture in Stⁱ. Giles Parish w^{thout} Criplegate, for every week in Lent, a sermon for ever.
 Nov. 20, 1662.—Old Proudlove, bellman of Criplegate, buried.
 May 25, 1664.—My dear wife (hei mihi) M^{is}. Elizabeth Smith died this dismall night buried y^e 28th May.
 July 30, 1664.—M^r. Chantrell, needle maker agst Stⁱ. Giles Church, buried.
 Sept. 1, 1664.—M^r. Brigs in Redcross Street (my pew fellow) died in y^e country.

- Oct. 3, 1664.—Mr. Throgmorton Trotman merchant in Little Morefields uncle to Secondary Trotman.
- Dec. 7, 1664.—Mrs. Ward widdow once wife of Mr. Staples, buried in St. Giles Cripplegate; where is her husband Staples Monument.
- Dec. 9, 1664.—Mr. James Denew our neighbour in Morefields died. buried in St. Giles Cripplegate Dec 14th wth rings.
- June 20, 1667.—Sir George Smith (a London merchant) a chief officer of y^e blew regiment died this evening in Cripplegate parish and there buried w^{thout} a sermon July 4th.
- Aug. 7, 1668.—Jonas Proest, late preacher at y^e Dutch Church.
- Nov. 4, 1668.—Mr. James Vancourt a weaver of silke stuffs in Grub Street—a very rich man and of good report.
- Dec. 23, 1668.—Mr. Staveley son in law to Justice Smith of Cripplegate.
- June 4, 1669.—Mr. Robert Hurst our brewer at y^e Hart w^{thout} Cripplegate died this night buried from Loriners Hall June 7th (Sans sermon).
- June 18, 1669.—Mr. Edlyn, Brewer in Golding Lane buried in Cripplegate church. Dr. Prichard preached his funerall sermon.
- June 4, 1670.—Mr. Drew, Blacksmith buried w^{thout} ticketts.
- June 7, 1670.—Mr. John Robinson buried from Armourers Hall in Cripplegate Church wth ticketts.
- Sept. 19, 1673.—Mr. Dell, of Cripplegate Parish was buried y^e 24th wth no good fame.
- April 25, 1673.—Old Mr. Bilbon, bricklayer of St. Giles Cripplegate, bountifull to the poor in his life time.
- Nov. 21, 1674.—Died Thomas Quartermain parish clerk of St. Giles, Cripplegate, buried the 23rd to whose buriall I was invited.
- * Nov. 15, 1674.—John Milton died at Bunhill near Morefields in Cripplegate parish, blind some time before he died.

Augustin Newbold,† on 11th April, 1675, closes the MS. thus, and signs his name :—

Mar. 26, 1675.—Friday old Mr. Richard Smith my honoured friend aged 85 years dyed and was buried in Cripplegate Church on y^e 1st of April following, he was y^e collector of the aforesaid Catalogue and of many excellent Books, he was a just man and of good report and worthy of imitation.

Between the years 1675 and 1783 there were but few monuments erected, and the few there were are mostly uninteresting. A plain slab

* Smyth is in error as to Milton's death—he died on the 8th November, and was buried, as the Registers show, on the 12th of the same month.

† Augustin Newbold was Deputy of Cripplegate, 1679, and one of the Committee for inquiring into the title of the "four shoppes" and for the rebuilding of the Vicarage house in 1681.

on the north wall to a Vicar, "WILLIAM WHITFIELD," who died in 1716, has an inscription as follows :—

I look for the resurrection of the dead,
And the life of the world to come.

Adjoining is a similar one to his wife :—

Catherine Whitfield was eminent for Virtue, Piety, Conjugal Affection.
In all things worthy such an husband.

MARY PERRY.

At the west end of the north aisle is a neatly sculptured marble monument, surmounted with a coat of arms. The inscription is as follows :—

In Memory of MARY, Daughter of
ROBERT CROMPTON, of Elvestoe in the
County of Bedford, Esq^r, the Pious,
Charitable, Chas^te & Most beloved Wife
of Cap^t JOHN PERY of this Parish, she
was borne 20th of Novemb^r 1651,
Died 25th of Feb^r 1676. She had two
Daughters, MARGERETT & MARY,
both heere buried in theire infancy
whose death (Shee too much lamen-
ting) hastned her owne.

Here to the Word of God She did attend^d
Hence at the call of God Shee shall ascend
Parents take Heede whilst you y^r children lov^e
Yow doe not him forgett who is above
Whose are y^{eir} Children : Remember thy
Sweete Flowers in y^e Bosomes, Fade away.

The entry in Register is as follows :—

Margarett, D. of John Perry, Brewer, buried 23rd November, 1674.

Mary, D. of Capt. John Perry, Brewer, buried 15th August, 1675.

Mary, Wife of Capt. John Perry, Brewer, buried 28th February, 1676-7.

There is also a tablet at the east end of the south aisle to the memory of a Vestry Clerk, that deserves, for its terse inscription, insertion here :—

THOMAS STAGG,
Attorney at Law,
Vestry Clerk of this Parish,
From the 8th day of March 1731,
To the 19th day of February 1772,
On which day he died.

THAT IS ALL.

For the long period of 41 years he was Clerk and served under but one Vicar (William Nicholls, 1728-74). It was during his tenure of office that the Parish was divided—in which work he no doubt assisted.

Close to the monument just described is one to

ANN MARTHA, wife of GEORGE WATSON HAND, M.A., Vicar.

This beautiful monument is the work of Thomas Banks, who also executed, among many other noted works, "The Mourning Achilles," now in the British Institution; the monument to Sir Eyre Coote, in Westminster Abbey; and others in St. Paul's Cathedral. The subject of Mrs. Hand's monument is the wife dying in the arms of her husband, whose intense grief is depicted on his countenance.



Both figures are exquisitely portrayed. On the lower part of the monument, in bas-relief, is the figure of a boy as "Death" holding in one hand the flower of the lily cut off, and in the other a hook, with the legend:—

"She cometh up and is cut down like a flower."

The inscription is as below:—

To the memory of
ANN MARTHA,
Wife of GEORGE WATSON HAND, M.A., Vicar,
Who died after a few hours' illness,
July 5th, 1784. Aged 28.
Also of
GEORGE WATSON HAND,
Late Vicar of this Parish,
Archdeacon of Dorset, Prebendary of
St Paul's and Sarum,
DIED FEBRUARY 3rd, 1802, IN HIS 53rd YEAR.

On the pavement of the south aisle is this well-meant effusion:—

Elizabeth Bucklee, 1790.—Prepare for this change. Thou canst not tell when thy *looking* eye will shut for ever. From *here* 'tis plain youth hath no surety. Think on this event. What thou dost lay up for it will be a precious treasure to thee, when the soul with all its keenest faculties must travel. Whither? Hast thou not thought? If not—let not a moment pass thee. At that time thou wilt know a moment's value.

There is a monument on the south wall to William Ayscough, for many years Parish Clerk, who died 24th May, 1800.

On the south wall of the Chancel is a handsome Monument, erected by Joseph Pahud de Vallangin, a Swiss, to the memory of his wife and two children. It contains a bas relief of a seated figure sorrowing for the loss of the deceased. He was a physician in extensive practice in Fore Street, most eccentric but generous and philanthropic: he died in 1805, from the effects of a fall from his carriage.

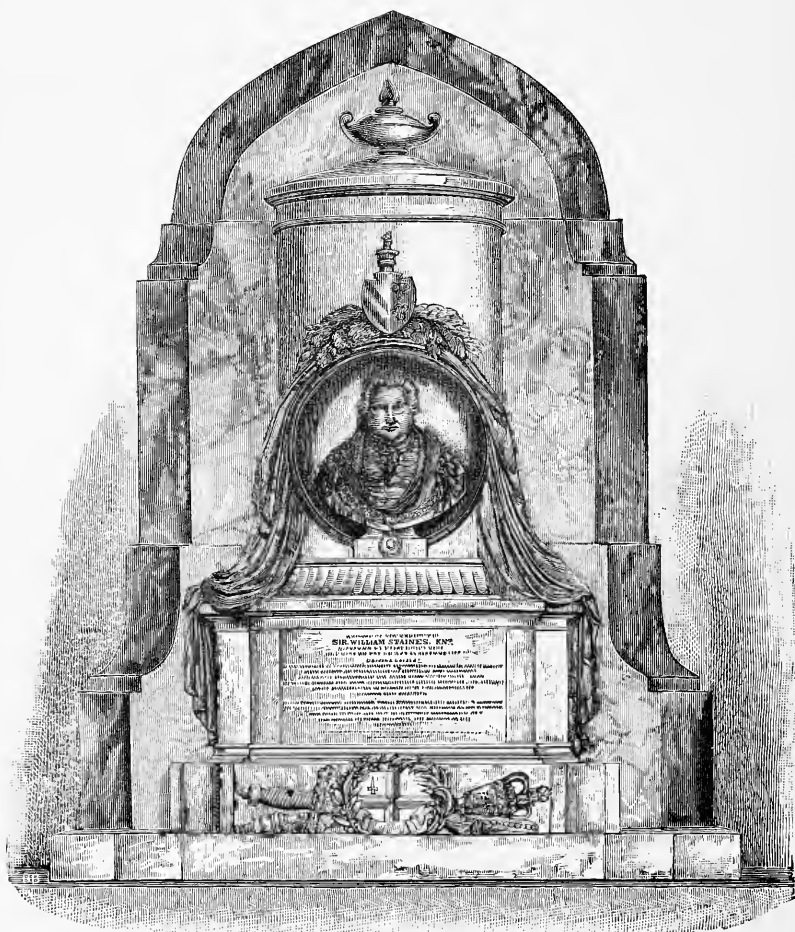
SIR WILLIAM STAINES,

DIED 11 SEPTEMBER, 1807.

The monument to Sir William Staines is at the west end of the north wall, and is an elaborate and well executed piece of sculpture in modern style. It may briefly be described as comprising a bust of the worthy Alderman dressed in his robes, and wearing his Chain and Badge of Office as Lord Mayor; above the bust are his Arms, and underneath the bust is the City Shield, Sword, and Mace, all delicately worked out.

Sir William Staines was Alderman of Cripplegate from 1793 until his death in 1807, serving the office of Sheriff, 1791, and of Lord Mayor in 1801. Of humble birth and never disowning his lowly origin, by his industry and integrity he amassed considerable wealth, and not unmindful of those who had failed in the race of life, he built and supported during his life four Almshouses for such poor men and women as should have been housekeepers and parishioners of Cripplegate. By his will he made a further endowment. Several other legacies for the same purpose have also been received by the Trustees (the Common Councilmen of the

Ward and the two Churchwardens of the Parish). The whole annual income is about £440. Seven almspeople are maintained in the Almshouses, and 10 pensioners receive £20 per annum



each. The Cripplegate Vestry showed their gratitude for some of his earlier services thus :—

Mar. 20, 1792.—Ordered, “That a very handsome silver Tobacco box and stopper be made and presented to Mr. Deputy William Staines with a suitable inscription as a reward for his services done to the Parish and that the two Churchwardens and Mr. Clarke and Mr. Browning be a Committee for seeing the same done in a proper manner.”

Many curious stories are told of him, amongst others some concerning his penchant for his pipe. He seldom rode out without a well-charged pipe, and, when he alighted, it was handed to his coachman to keep it going until his master's return. Staines was fond of relating over his pipe and glass the following anecdote:—"When he was at work as a bricklayer, at a parsonage house at Uxbridge, the parson's wife told him, to his astonishment, she had a dream that he would be Lord Mayor of London. The same dream again occurred to the lady, and was again told him." He finished his work at the house and left, probably thinking no more about the matter, but this incident may possibly have been an incentive to him to attempt to rise in life. The Parson lived to be Staines' Chaplain when Lord Mayor.

Another tale is related of him:—"An old lady foretold Mr. Staines' fortune. She said that he would be Lord Mayor during a period of turbulence and scarcity; that we should be at war with France; but that during his Mayoralty peace and plenty would be restored." This turned out true, as peace was temporarily restored during his tenure of office, and bread sold much cheaper than it had been, and as a consequence cheaper food for all.

JOHN STAINES.

The white marble monument to John Staines is placed next to that of his Father, at the west end of the north aisle. The upper portion has a Bible and Cross, neatly sculptured, and over them a Celestial Crown. The Arms of the deceased are at the base.

The inscription supplies food for serious reflection to beholders:—

To the memory of
JOHN STAINES,
Son of the late Sir WILLIAM STAINES,
DIED 16th APRIL, 1823.
Aged 26 years.

Stop for a moment, youthful passers by,
On this memento cast a serious eye;
Tho' now the rose of health may flush your cheek,
And youthful vigour may long life bespeak;
Yet think how soon like me you may become,
In Youth's fair prime, the tenant of a tomb.

REV. JOHN WEYBRIDGE.

This tastefully-executed monument is close to the north door, and as will be seen by accompanying illustration, is emblematic of Faith, Hope and Charity.



The inscription is:—

To the memory of
The REV. JOHN WEYBRIDGE,
DIED MARCH 23rd, 1835.

Aged 39 years.
And his wife. MARIA, daughter of
Sir WILLIAM STAINES,
SHE DIED NOVEMBER 30th, 1842.
Aged 48 years.

PETER EARNSHAW, Esq.,
DIED 20th JANUARY, 1841. Aged 73 years.
He was 47 years Ward and Vestry Clerk of this Parish,
And 37 years Treasurer of the Boys' School.

The above monument is on the west end of north wall.

REV. FREDK. WM. BLOMBERG, D.D.

A tablet, recording the generosity of this divine, has been mentioned when speaking of the Vicars, page 71.

On the north side of the chancel is a tablet to his memory, which reads as follows :—

REV. FREDK. WM. BLOMBERG, D.D.,
Chaplain in Ordinary to Her Majesty,
Canon Residentiary of St. Paul's Cathedral,
And Vicar of this Parish.

DIED 23rd MARCH, 1847, in the 86th year of his Age.

A painting in oil of this Vicar hangs in the Vestry Room, in the Quest House.

Amongst recent additions to the monuments, there is one on the south wall to

MR. WILLIAM BASSINGHAM,
DIED OCTOBER 15th, 1850,
Aged 58 years.

He was for many years a respected inhabitant of the parish ; his tomb is one of three that still stand in the Churchyard.

In the tower is a brass plate, engraved as follows :—

The twin Brothers
CHARLES AND JOHN ELLIS,
Who for nearly 40 years, filled with singular attention and fidelity,
The office of Joint Secretaries to the
Cripplegate Savings Bank,
And died,
CHARLES, MAY 16th, 1865,
JOHN, OCTOBER 8th, 1871.

Respected and beloved by all that knew them.

On the north wall is a neat tablet to another respected Vestry Clerk,

ALEXANDER JOHN BAYLIS,
39 years Clerk of this Ward and Parish,
WHO DIED 16th MAY, 1882.
Aged 69 years.

At the east end of the north wall is a monument to one who was an energetic and respected inhabitant of the Parish.

GEORGE MATTHEW FELTON,

Elected a Member of the Common Council, 1876.

Chairman of the City of London School Committee, 1879.

Chief Commissioner of the Court of Sewers, 1882.

Churchwarden of this Parish, 1878-79.

DIED NOVEMBER 4th, 1883.

The last monument that need be mentioned here is one to the late Vicar. It is placed at the east end of the south wall, and attracts notice by its beautiful simplicity.

The substance of the inscription is as follows :—

The REV. PHILIP PARKER GILBERT, M.A.,

WAS BORN DECEMBER 5th, 1811, AND DIED JULY 12th, 1886.

Ordained in 1835, and after various preferments was instituted to the Vicarage of St. Giles, Cripplegate, in 1857.

An eminent Preacher, and a clear and intelligent man of business.

“ He rests from his labours, and his works do follow him.”





TROPHY OF ARMS.

THE Trophy of Arms shown below is placed over the Alderman's chair, in the Corporation Pew. This pew, on the north side of the nave, has been constructed to seat the eight members of the Common Council for the Ward, half of them in that most irreverent of positions, with their backs to those conducting the service.

The City Shield occupies the uppermost position. It may not be out of place to call attention to the origin of the "sword" in the Arms. It has been generally understood, that in commemoration of the slaying of Wat Tyler with a *dagger*, by Mayor Walworth, the addition of a dagger was made to the red cross, *but this is an error*, as according to the compiler of the "History of the Guildhall" (published by order, and at the expense of the Corporation in 1886), there seems no doubt whatever that it is the *sword* of St. Paul, the patron saint of the City, that is there represented, and not a *dagger*, for he says that in April, 1386, the Mayor brought in a new seal, upon which a "perfectly graven shield" appeared, and on it the *sword* clearly shewn; as Wat Tyler was not killed until June 15th in the same year, it is clear that a "*dagger*" was not added to commemorate Walworth's achievement.



The Arms immediately below the City Shield are those of the present Alderman of the Ward, Sir Henry E. Knight, Lord Mayor, 1882.

On the left-hand, below, are those of Sir William Staines, Lord Mayor, 1801, a short memoir of whom will be found under the head of Monuments. On the right-hand are those of Sir Matthew Wood, Bart., a man of whom Cripplegate may well be proud. The following notes of his life are mainly culled from the "Gentleman's Magazine" of November, 1843, in a notice of his death in the preceding September:—"Born at Tiverton in 1768, after receiving his education in the famous Blundell's Free Grammar School there, he was apprenticed to a druggist. At the age of twenty-two he came to London, and in 1801 established himself in business, in Falcon Square. In 1802 he was placed at the head of the poll as one of the four Common Councilmen for the Ward of Cripplegate Without."

In 1807, whilst absent on a pleasure tour in Ireland, he was elected Alderman of the Ward, on the death of Alderman Staines. The Mayor of Limerick first announced to him the honour that had been thus spontaneously conferred. In 1809 he served the office of Sheriff of London and Middlesex. In 1815 he succeeded, in due course, to the Mayoralty, in which he distinguished himself by his unrivalled energy and ability as a Magistrate. The critical state of the country in 1816, the great scarcity and consequent dulness and dissatisfaction rendered it important that a firm man should be chosen as Chief Magistrate of the City, and for the first time for several hundred years, the Civic chair was filled during two consecutive terms of office by the same individual.

During his second Mayoralty, in 1817, he was returned to Parliament, without any opposition, as representative of the City of London, and at a contested election in 1818, was returned at the head of the poll. Upon the decease of George III, in the year 1820, Alderman Wood was applied to by Queen Caroline (then abroad) for advice. Being fully persuaded of her innocence, with that straightforward decision, and hatred of oppression which distinguished him through life, he at once exhorted her to face her accusers by returning to England; and with consistent firmness, regardless of the attacks of a portion of the press, he stood by her cause to the end.

Theodore Hook wrote a bitter satire on Alderman Wood's espousal of the Queen's cause, entitled "An Essay towards the History of Whittington," but satire though it be, the following verses that occur in it were undoubtedly true :—

" Serche England round, naye all the erthe,
Itte mychtelie would trouble you,
To find a manne so ryche in worthe,
As honeste Matthew W.
He's notte the manne to doe you wronge,
Nor wythe false speeches trouble you,
Whyle beef grows fatte, and beer grows strong,
Long lyfe to Matthew W."

On the occasion of Her Majesty's honouring the Corporation by her presence at dinner at the Guildhall in 1837, Alderman Wood was informed by Lord John Russell, of Her Majesty's intention to confer on him the dignity of a Baronet. He had acted as trustee in the management of the affairs of Her Majesty's father, the Duke of Kent, and had suggested and promoted the return of the Duke and Duchess to England, shortly before Her Majesty's birth. He sat in nine consecutive Parliaments, extending over a period of 25 years. In his political opinions he was a Radical Reformer during his whole career, his votes were given in favour of Free Trade, Reform of Parliament, Vote by Ballot, Emancipation of the Roman Catholics, and other Liberal measures of Reform.

As a Magistrate he was firm and upright, yet kind and indulgent to the poor and distressed. As a Citizen he was mainly distinguished by his activity in promoting good government, the removal of abuses, and local improvement. In his mercantile character he was highly esteemed as a man of the utmost strictness and honour in all his transactions.

"The moral of his public and private career is brief and impressive; be honest and consistent, so may you be enabled to benefit your fellow men, and to obtain the goodwill of the upright." He left three sons—John Page Wood, who succeeded him in the Baronetcy; William Page Wood, afterwards Lord High Chancellor of England, and known as Lord Hatherley, a title taken from an estate in Gloucestershire, left to Sir Matthew Wood by a namesake, "Jemmy" Wood, the

Banker, it is said, through the instrumentality of a lady relative, in gratitude to Sir Matthew Wood for his conduct in defending Queen Caroline.

The third son was Western Wood, for some time a Member of Parliament for the City of London.

The eldest son, the Rev. Sir John Page Wood, died in 1866. He had three sons, the youngest of whom is Sir Henry Evelyn Wood, K.C.B., V.C., whose distinguished services are well known. According to "Debrett," he entered the Royal Navy in 1852, and served with the Naval Brigade in the Crimea, where he was wounded; he entered the Army in 1855, and saw much service in the Indian Mutiny and in the Ashanti War. His Victoria Cross was gained for conspicuous bravery in India.

The Arms at the bottom of the Trophy are those of Thomas Challis, Lord Mayor, 1852, who entered upon his office when the body of the great Duke of Wellington was lying in state, awaiting burial. The usual pomp and pageantry of the procession to Westminster was dispensed with, the City and nation being too sincerely sorrowful for the loss of the greatest man of the age, to hold any kind of festivity. The usual banquet in the evening was also abandoned. Challis died in 1874.





STAFFS.

The curiously worked staffs of office are worthy of attention.



No. 1.



No. 2.



No. 3.

No. 1 has the following inscription engraved around it :—

The Gift of
 S^r BENJAMIN MADDON, Baronet,
 To the Parish of S^t Gyles Cripplegate,
 London, to be Used by y^e Stewards
 Of y^e Natives of the said Parrish.

There is also an inscription stating that it was “reguilt” in 1828, and again in 1882. It was probably presented in 1710.

Maddox's armorial bearings are engraved on the reverse side to the inscription.

This staff is carried before the Officers of the Church by the Beadle on Perambulation days and other ceremonial occasions.

No. 2 is of simple design, and has the following inscription engraved upon it :—

The Gift of Mr. WILLIAM HART, Brewer,
To the Grand Inquest of Cripplegate
Without, A.D. 1675, when he
Was their Porter.
New Made, December, 1741.

No. 3 is the staff that was used at the Workhouse on official occasions. The Churchwardens' names and the date 1792 are engraved round the upper portion of the head, and the words "Cripplegate Workhouse" on the lower part.

The Beadle's badge of office may be mentioned here. It is of massive silver, elaborately embossed and chased—the central design being the Cripple-gate and the proverbial beggar. It was made in the year 1720, and possesses real artistic merit.





THE ORGAN AND ORGANISTS.

IT is very uncertain whether an Organ was in use in the Church prior to 1672, but this date is the earliest of which any record of the fact is found. At and after this time we find many entries in the Vestry Minute Books concerning the Organ and the Organists. The first runs as follows:—"That M^{rs}. Charnock shall have thanks given her for her affection in bestowing a fair Organ on the Parish Church of S^t. Giles Without Cripplegate, London. That a convenient place be found for the setting of it up, and that the Vicar and Vestry find out some way and meanes for the maintenance of the Organist." The latter part of this Minute seems to point to the fact that there was then no Organ in the Church—the probability being that the Puritans, in their zeal for simplicity, had removed all instruments of music from it.

This Organ was set up in a Gallery. [One cannot help wondering whether this was one of the Holy Organs "rolling waves of sound on roof and floor," that Milton loved to hear.]

6 Aug., 1673.—That the Churchwardens doe take care forthwith that the flore of the gallery whereon the Organ standeth be well and sufficiently amended, and that there be pallasados set up, and the charge thereof be allowed to them in their accounts.

At this time the Sexton had to select and pay the Organist; an arrangement which seems to have given the Vestry endless trouble—as the following entries will show:—

Feb. 28, 1672-3.—That the Sexton be chosen into his place, and he either to officiate and play upon the organ himself or provide at his own cost one able sufficient organist to play upon it, Sundayes, Holy dayes, Wensdayes, Fridayes and Lecture Dayes, and his Sextons place to be voyd if he shall faile in any part of his duty.

Another entry on same date:—

That James Brookes is chosen Sexton and Organist by the Kings Majesties Letter.

But what the King had to do with the matter we are not told.

26 Mar. 1673.—That James Brookes which is lately chosen Sexton of this Parish, doe and shall allow unto Widow Pritchett [the widow of the former sexton into whose place Brookes was elected] the sum of £10 per annum from this Easter next ensuing so long as they both shall live.

Mr. Brookes did not enjoy his post long, as the next entry shows :—

25 Oct., 1673.—That M^r. Brooke lately sexton of this parish shall be satisfied for the charges he has been at.

A complicated arrangement is now entered into consequent upon the jealousy that long existed, and has existed almost down to our own times, between the Lordship and the Freedom parts of the Parish.

Under same date as above :—

That Thomas Foote and William Goode are chosen Sextons of this Parish, and the one to receive and have the whole benefit and privilege of the whole place or office of Sexton the “one week,” and the other to receive, &c., &c., the other week next following, and so to continue.

That Thomas Foote and William Goode as they are chosen Sextons of this Parish, they are to allow and pay the sum of £20 per annum to the Organist by £5 per quarter.

21 May, 1674.—The senior Churchwarden of the Freedom pay to W^m. Goode, one of the Sextons of this Parish the sum of £10 in lieu of the £20 which W. G. paid to J. Brookes, former Sexton, on his leaving his post, and whatsoever moneys due or owing either from Thomas Foote or William Goode to M^r. Forser for playing on the Organ, they, the said Sextons, shall pay forthwith and continue their quarterly payments of £5.

3 Nov. 1674.—That the Churchwardens do forthwith pay to W. Goode the sum of £10 aforesaid, and that W. G. shall within one month from receipt thereof pay his proportion to Mr. Forser, Organist, on pain of being turned out, and the same as regards T. Foote.

3 Feb., 1674-5.—That the Churchwardens do forthwith pay to M^r. Forser for playing on the Organ the sum of £10, there being £20 due to him from Thomas Foote and William Goode at Ladyday next ensuing, but by reason it is so much in arrears, and the said Sextons very poor and not able to pay, the “Gentlemen of the Vestry” do order the Churchwardens to pay the said sum of £10. That for the present John Pine, who is now chosen Clerk, shall pay to the Organist the sum of £10 by the year, he having promised so to do till one of the Sextons depart this life, or part from his office, and no longer; provided that this be no precedent, nor imposed on the Clerke's office for the future. Either Sexton dying the office to rest with the other till his death, if Freedom survives the Lordship elects next—if Lordship survives the Freedom elects next.

No further entries of consequence are found for the next few years, both Organist and Sextons dying—their differences having probably been adjusted to the satisfaction of the “Gentlemen of the Vestry.”

The following entry, which seems to imply that the Vestry had taken to pay the Organist themselves, but the amount is too small—probably it was a subsidy to the Sexton's payment.

20 Feb., 1676-7.—Do pay M^r. Curtis, the Organist, the sum of £3 at Lady day next ensuing, to be continued per annum till further order.

Sextons' lives were evidently short, and possibly not merry in Cripplegate, for the twin Sextons were dead, and also one who succeeded them; for on—

1 July, 1681.—Thomas Ayres, elected in place of S. Evans, Sexton, is taken bound to pay M^r. John Curtis for playing on the Organ £16 per annum.

Ayres dies soon, and we find his wife retained in his place. She is ordered on—

22 April, 1685.—To pay out of her place and office of Sexton the sum of £16 per annum to Mr. John Curtis.

The Organ seems to have been repaired in 1688.

30 April, 1688.—Whereas Mr. Smith [is this Father Schmidt, the famous organ builder, and rival of Renatus Harris?] the organ maker, demands £12 for mending, repairing, and cleaning the Organ. The Churchwardens ordered to pay Mr. S. and to get as much abatement as conveniently they can “for the good of the Parish.”

It may be noted that Mr. John Curtis held his office as Organist from 1677 until his death in 1703, for on—

25 Feb., 1703-4.—It was resolved that Mr. Henry Greene (a blind man) be chosen Organist in the stead of Curtis, deceased, at and under the same yearly salary as was payable to the said Mr. Curtis.

In the year 1704 many alterations and additions were made in the Church, which are mentioned elsewhere. Amongst these, a large gallery at the west end of the Church was erected, on which was placed a new Organ. The Minutes of the Vestry respecting this run as follows:—

19 July, 1704.—The old Organ be taken out of the Church and a newe Organ provided and putt in the roome thereof.

26 July, 1704.—That if the surplusage of what will new pew and repair the Church, and what may be collected towards a new Organ by subscription, will buy a new Organ, then let a new Organ be provided and placed in the Church, and that the order made at last Vestry about the Organ be vacated.

23 Aug., 1704.—That the old Organ be taken down and removed out of the Church and a new Organ placed in the stead thereof.

27 Sept., 1704.—In case a new Organ shall be provided for the Church, then the Organ shall be exchanged towards such new one.

These vacillating Minutes now end, for we find the following:—

13 April, 1705.—That the present Churchwardens do deteyne in their hands so much money as will pay Mr. Harris for the Organ when it shall appear the same doth answer his proposalls and then pay him what was agreed for, or what he shall deserve for the same, and that the Committee do appoint proper persons to inspect the goodness thereof.

£4 a year to be added to the Organists salary, to be paid by the Sextoness, who has consented, and 20s. more to the Organ blower.

The Mr. Harris here spoken of, is the celebrated Renatus Harris, one of several talented Organ builders who settled in this country soon after the Restoration. The Organ thus built is the same in all material respects as the one now standing in the Church. It has of course been found necessary, during the 180 years that it has been in use, to make sundry additions and alterations. And it may be noted with regret, that the elaborately carved oak case ornamented with well designed gilt cherubs, was (a few years after the removal of the Organ in 1868,

from the floor at the west end of the Church to its present useful and appropriate position) sacrificed for the present plain and tasteless one. Portions of the old carving are still to be seen ornamenting the backs of some of the pews. To return from this digression to the Minutes, we find on—

11 May, 1705.—That D^r. Blow be appointed, on behalf of the Parish, to inspect the Organ in the Church and give his opinion thereon, as to the goodness thereof and to the value.

Dr. John Blow was an expert in Organs, as we find that he was one of the Organists whose approval was to be given to the Organ in St. Paul's Cathedral, before it was to be considered complete.

Dr. Blow evidently reports favourably, for the next entry runs as follows:—

31 May, 1705.—That M^r. Harris be paid £400 for the new Organ by himself set up in the Church, upon his agreeing to keepe the same in repaire and cleane it at his own charge for a year from Midsummer, and at the end of said year for another year if the Churchwardens request him so to do. The old Organ to be delivered to M^r. Harris or his order.

The Parish at last seem to have thought that it was time to take the part payment of the Organist of their new Organ out of the Sexton's or Clerk's hands, for on date

14 Jan., 1708.—It was ordered: That M^r. Green, the Organ player for the time to come be paid yearly *by the parish* the £10 which used to be paid him by the late Clerke.

Mr. Harris, the builder, seems to have been engaged to look after and clean the Organ, whether for a stated sum or not, we cannot trace, but he seems to have given offence to the "Gentlemen of the Vestry," as the following entries clearly show:—

7 Dec., 1709.—That M^r. Harris having dealt trickingly with the parish relating to the Organ in the church, shall be no further employed in repairing, cleansing or looking after the same.

That the said M^r. Harris be paid by the present Churchwardens £28 for his looking after the Organ three years and a half, ending at Christmas next, he the said M^r. Harris on the receipt of the said £28, giving a receipt to the parish in full of all demands to that time relating to the said Organ, in any manner of wise.

20 Dec., 1709.—M^r. Abram Jordan to look after the Organ in the church for a yeare at £8 for so doing.

The payment of the Organist still seems to have been a troublesome matter, and one in which the Vestry could not agree. On date

7 May, 1711.—That from Midsomer next the parish will have nothing to do with the payment to the Organist of the £10 a year formerly paid by the late Parish Clerk, M^r. Barnsley.

1714.—That John Ballards blind daughter be Organ blower, it now being the Freedom's turn to put in that officer.

1716.—Matter of arrears of Organists salary and Organ Keeper to be considered.

27 Aug., 1717.—That it be proposed to Mr. Cornelius [Clerk], by Dr. Bennet, that if he will pay the £15 due to Mr. Green the Organist, at Midsummer last, the parish will not desire him to pay any more for the time to come.

27 Feb., 1717-8.—£10 out of the Sextoness' money to be paid to Henry Green, the Organist, with her consent.

31 May, 1720.—To inquire what sums is due from the parish to Mr. Greene, the Organ player, and how he shall be paid the same.

The inquiry takes two years to make, meanwhile the Freedom Vestry propose in their Minutes—

8 Nov., 1722.—That the dispute relating to the Organ players being paid be referred to Dr. Coull.

And the result is the following entry in accounts:—

25 Feb., 1722-3.—Paid to Mr. Green, Organ player, arrears £67 10s.; arrears, Mr. Jordan, Organ maker, £73 17s. 6d.

In spite of the amount paid to the "Organ maker," the instrument seems to have again been out of order.

Letter from Mr. Jordan, concerning the Organ was read, as follows:—

25 May, 1726.—The touch is bad. Mr. Harris left the Organ imperfect. I propose to renew movements, to new voice, and make it completely good. This will be three months' work, and would cost £100, but if the Vestry will pay for regilding the front of Organ I will do all the rest on an engagement for 21 years at my present annual salary of £8.

This was agreed to, the front was re-gilded at a cost of £21, in the September following, but the following entry occurs on

21 July, 1730.—Mr. Jordan has not commenced work yet; he acknowledges his fault and proposes to begin repairs; if such be done, the Churchwardens to complete the contract.

The Vestry finally settle to pay the whole of the Organist's salary themselves.

27 Aug., 1728.—That the Organist for the future be paid his salary of £20 per annum by the respective Churchwardens of the Parish, and the same be allowed them in their severall accounts.

The Organ and Organist question again troubles and divides the Vestry, for on

19 Dec., 1728.—It was debated "whether Mr. Henry Green, the present Organist of this Parish, should be continued as Organist thereof any longer or not." Upon being put to the vote there was 25 votes for continuing him, and twenty-four for not continuing him. A poll was demanded and granted. It was carried for discharging him upon the said Poll—22 against 4—and pay this quarter salary to Christmas next.

26 Feb., 1728-9.—Ordered "That Mr. Henry Green be continued Organist of the Parish, and if the Churchwardens presume to pay any other person than him, that the same shall not be allowed in their accounts."

This order was made after the Churchwardens adjourned the Vestry. It is probable that Mr. Green's musical talent was not considered sufficiently good. The Churchwardens seem to have made a dead set against him.

17 Mar. 1728-9.—Rev. John Rogers in the Chair—The question was put, “Whether Mr. Henry Green should be continued Organist of this Parish.” It was carried; 34 votes being given for having him continued, and 5 votes for discontinuing him, and “all former orders concerning him are declared null and void.”

But the blind Organist's troubles were not over. After the building of St. Luke's Church, and the separation of the Parishes, the assault is again renewed—the St. Giles' Vestry proposing to elect a new Organist, and to pension Green off at £10 per year—allowing him £20 till the new Organist should be appointed. This proposal was not confirmed, but a month after, on the 14th June, 1734, they resolve “that Mr. Green, the Organist, be paid £10 a year (the proportion of salary the Freedom hitherto paid) during such time as he shall continue Organist, and that he be paid the further sum of £10 a year during the pleasure of the Vestry.

In March, 1734, proposals for amending the Organ are laid before the Vestry—an estimate of £170, from a Mr. Bridge, is accepted in April for repairs and adding several stops. A year afterwards they proceed to elect a new Organist, the conditions are: annual election, £20 a year salary while Mr. Green lives, and £30 after his death.

Mr. Froud is elected—“who is to attend in his proper person on his duty all Sundays, morning and afternoon, and on Saints days in the morning.” These terms are duly signed in the Vestry Book by C. Froud. Meanwhile Mr. Green's rights are secured by a clause in the lease of the Castle Tavern, which he does not long live to enjoy, for on August 4th, 1737, Mr. Green is reported to be dead, and Mr. Froud gets his £30.

The vexed question of the appointment and salary of the Organist appears to be finally settled, as from this time the troubles with the Organist disappear from the Minutes.

Mr. Froud died in 1770. It is remarkable that the Vicar (Dr. Nicholls), the Vestry Clerk (Mr. Stagg), and the Organist served together for over 30 years, and in the case of the Vicar and Clerk, over 40 years. Church matters ought to have worked smoothly. The Organists in succession were: Mr. Gilding, Mr. Courtney, Miss Bickerton, Mr. Immyns, Miss Hush, and in February, 1832, Mr. W. Miller was elected, having successfully competed against 19 other candidates for the office. Mr. Miller, besides being a good musician, was most popular in the Parish, and to him is largely due the various restorations that took place in the Church from 1858 onwards. One of his sons, Mr. Arthur Miller, is the present Organist, the salary being £80 per annum.

The allowance from the Vestry for Choirmaster and Choir is at present £135 per annum.

Repairs of various kinds were effected on the Organ at the commencement of the present century, but nothing of importance was done until 1840, when Messrs. Gray and Davison put the Organ in thorough order at a cost of £250. In 1850, 1864, and in 1877-8, considerable minor alterations and repairs were effected, and finally, in 1887, the instrument was cleaned, and several small alterations were made. The following is a synopsis of the Organ, as supplied by Messrs. Gray and Davison :—

Three Manuals CC to G, and Pedals CCC to F.

GREAT ORGAN.

	Feet.		Feet.
Double Diapason	16	Fifteenth	2
Open Diapason	8	Sesquialtera	3 ranks
Open Diapason	8	Mixture	2 „
Stopped Diapason	8	Trumpet	8
Principal	4	Horn	8
Twelfth	3	Clarion	4

SWELL ORGAN.

	Feet.		Feet.
Bourdon	16	Fifteenth	2
Open Diapason	8	Mixture	3 ranks
Stopped Diapason	8	Oboe	8
Keraulophon	8	Cornopean	8
Principal	4	Clarion	4

CHOIR ORGAN.

	Feet.		Feet.
Dulciana	8	Flute	4
Viol di Gamba	8	Piccolo	2
Stopped Diapason	8	Clarinet	8
Principal	4		

PEDAL ORGAN.

	Feet.		Feet.
Open Diapason	16	Violoncello	8
Bourdon	16	Trombone	16
Violone	16		

COUPLERS.

Swell to Great.

Swell to Choir.

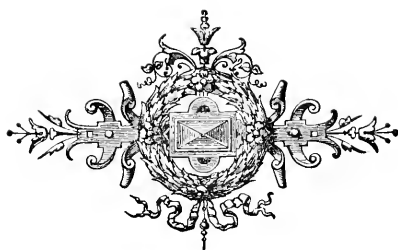
Swell to Pedals.

Great to Pedals.

Choir to Pedals.

COMPOSITION PEDALS.

5 to Great and Pedals; 2 to Swell, and 2 to Choir.





THE BELLS, CHIMES, AND CLOCK.

THE earliest notice of the Bells and Chimes is found in the will of William Lamb (1580), founder of Lamb's Chapel, in Monkwell Street, which was built partly on the City wall, overlooking what was afterwards called the "Greene Churchyard." He says there that "he gives £15 to the Parish Church of St. Giles, Cripplegate, to the Bells and Chimes, intending a further liberality thereto if they had taken time."

The first Inventories (1648), now existing, record "In the belfry six bigger and lesser bells and one Saints' bell," and in the accounts the cost of the "Clocke and Chimes" for that year is £2 2s. 6d.

In 1651 £21 is expended for "New iron work and making great part new." "The Clock and Chimes taken down and set up, £4."

In 1655 the "great bell" was "recast at Redding"; the entries referring to this are as follows:—

Paid to Mr. Knight for casting the great bell, £22 7s. 8d.

Paid for the bond and covenants between the Parish and the Bellfounder, 1s. [Cheap law !]

Paid for the carriage of the Bell to and fro from Redding, £5.

Paid for the hire of 4 horses for Mr. Papworth, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Read, and Mr. Worthen, £2 11s. [Three of these were Churchwardens, and the other possibly an expert in bells.]

Expended at the same time on this journey forward and backward, £3 15s. 2d.

Entries occur from time to time for minor expenses. The following entries in the accounts as to payment of the ringers will be interesting.

There is a yearly payment of 5s. for the 5th of November.

In 1654, when the Lord Protector dined in the City, 5s.

In 1656, for the peace between England and France, 5s.

In 1659, when the secluded Members were voted in, 5s.

—— at the routing of Sir George Booth, 5s.

In 1660, the day of the Audit dinner, 2*s.* 6*d.*

—— the day the King was proclaimed, 6*s.* 6*d.*

—— when the King came into England, 6*s.*

—— when the King came through the City, 10*s.* 4*d.*

—— Perambulation Day, 5*s.*

In 1662, when the Queen landed, 7*s.*

when the King and Queen came from Hampton Court, 7*s.*

King's Coronation Day, 6*s.* 6*d.*

Christening Font put up, 2*s.*

Times change, and Cripplegate merrily welcomed the so-called "Merry Monarch," but surely there were many whose hearts were not with the bells, and who sadly remembered 1641 and the years after it, and the sacrifices made by Cripplegate men for their country's good—now, alas! thrown to the winds, but destined to bear fruit some eight-and-twenty years later.

In 1665, the casting of some of the bells at St. Mary Cray by Hudson cost £27, and in 1668 two new bells were added by Mr. Piggott, at a cost of £20, and £20 for new frames.

The Inventory now gives "eight bigger and lesser bells and one Saintes bell."

When the steeple was raised in 1682, a new Clock and Chimes were added, and several of the bells re-cast. The following are a few of the entries:—

1683.—The sixth biggest bell to be re-cast, and made tuneable to ring in peal.

1685.—The great bell be new cast forthwith, and to ring in peal, tuneable to answer the other bells, and that Mr. Whiteman do receive the sum of £30, little more or little less, being the remainder due to him.

1686.—That the fifth bell be now forthwith new cast by Mr. Whiteman, and be made a good bell, to ring tuneable in peal to answer the others, and he to have the [same rate] as formerly he had for the other; and the said Mr. W. did promise at the same time to cast and make a new Great Bell, commonly called the Tenor, to ring tuneable in peal, to answer and cover all the other bells, and left to his discretion the weight of each, so that they both perform as above exprest.

Mr. Whiteman seems to have been slow in getting to work, for we find on—

Aug., 1686.—That the great bell, commonly called the Tenor, be forthwith taken down, before which time Mr. Whiteman shall have a weekes time to consider whether he will bring or cause to be brought into our steeple, the great new belle, commonly called the tenor, if not then the Committee of Gentlemen of the Vestry to treat and agree with another bellfounder for a new Tenor.

Mr. Whiteman was possibly afraid of "another bellfounder," and finishes his work, for we find no more entries on the subject.

In 1688 the bell-keeper gets £4 per year.

In 1709 £20 was spent in repairing the chimes, and 40s. paid yearly for looking after them.

In 1710 the passing bell is to be a check on the "Mortuary" money.

Dec., 1728.—It was ordered, "That 'Bradley'* be discharged from looking after the chimes."

Aug., 1742.—"The bells to be rehung at a cost of £9 10s., and a contract be made at £5 per year for 12 years to supply ropes and keep the bells in proper repair (barring stock and wheel).

Feb., 1753.—"Mr. Thwaites having proposed to repair the chimes and add two new hammers so that they may strike on ten bells, it is ordered to be done."

July, 1758.—"Estimates being furnished for repairing the wheels of the bells, that of Joseph Eayre of St. Neots, Huntingdon, be accepted (£45 11s. 0d.) and the work to be done in 4 months."

Oct., 1759.—"Complaints being made that the Clock and Chimes have been much neglected, Mr. Thwaites be discharged and some other person an inhabitant of the Parish be elected to look after the same."

Dec., 1759.—"Mr. Thwaites writes 'saying he has been ill,' and it is ordered that he be reinstated."

The bells, wheels and stocks, and the whole arrangement for ringing the bells, seems to have gone past repair, as when on—

Mar. 30th, 1772.—It being represented to the Vestry that the eighth bell in the steeple is broken, it was ordered, "That there be provided a new set of Ten Bells at the expense of the Parish, and that Messrs. Pack and Chapman Bellfounders be employed in casting the same; the sum of £200 to be raised by annuities towards defraying the expense."

1772.—"Pack and Chapman propose to recast and make a complete new peal of ten new bells and recast the Saint's bell for £315 11s. 0d."

This was agreed to.

1772.—"The windows in the bell-loft to be boarded up as high as is necessary, and the lubber boarding there to be taken down and replaced more horizontal.

1774.—"£300 to be borrowed on Life Annuities defraying expense of new bells and repairing belfry."

1777.—"Ordered to repair and amend the turret of the 'Sante bell.' "

Mar., 1783.—The cannon of the treble bell being broken it was ordered "That the said bell be recast forthwith, and the same done under the directions of the Churchwarden, and that the third bell be opened, the eighth bell skirted a little and the tenor opened a little."

"Warner" the bellfounder was Churchwarden, under whom the work was done.

Jan., 1791.—"The Church Clocke to be made to strike on the Tenor Bell instead of the bell in the turret."

Apr., 1793.—Ordered, "That the twelve bells in the steeple be made to ring in peal, the expense not to exceed the sum of £60."

* This was Lang Bradley, who in 1722 made the clock that is now in the turret.

From time to time repairs and alterations have been made, but the bells are practically in the same condition as they were nearly one hundred years ago.

The weights of the respective bells, and the inscriptions on them, are as follows :

The treble bell weighs 5 cwt., the second 6 cwt., the third 7 cwt. 1 qr., the fourth 6 cwt. 3 qrs. 1 lb., the fifth 7 cwt. 3 qrs. 13 lbs. They all bear the founder's name, and some of them the names of the Churchwardens, Alderman and Common Councilmen in office at the time of their erection. The sixth bell weighs 8 cwt. 2 qrs., 5 lbs., with founder's name and following inscription :—

“ Ye people all, who hear me ring,
Be faithful to your God and King.”

The seventh weighs 9 cwt. 2 qrs. 21 lbs., with inscription—

“ Whilst thus we join in cheerful sound,
May love and loyalty abound.”

The eighth weighs 11 cwt. 1 qr. 21 lbs., with inscription—

“ Peace and good neighbourhood.”

The ninth weighs 15 cwt. 1 qr. 10 lbs., with inscription—

“ Our voices shall in concert ring,
To honour both of God and King.”

The tenth weighs 17 cwt. 2 qrs. 3 lbs., with inscription—

“ In wedlock's bands all ye who join,
With hands your hearts unite,
So shall our tuneful tongues combine,
To laud the nuptial rite.”

The eleventh weighs 24 cwt. and 4 lbs., with inscription—

“ Ye ringers all, that prize your health and happiness,
Be sober, merry, wise, and you'll the same possess.”

The tenor bell weighs 36 cwt. 1 qr. 24 lbs., with Founders, Churchwardens, Alderman and Common Councillors' names.

The gross weight of the twelve bells is 7 tons 15 cwt. 3 qrs. 18 lbs., exclusive of the clappers, which weigh 3 cwt. 2 qrs.

There are now (as at the time Timbs published his “Curiosities of London”) twelve bells in the Belfry. Only one other Church in the City, St. Bride's, Fleet Street, and only three other Churches in the rest of London, *i.e.*, St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, St. Saviour's, Southwark, and St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, have so many bells as this.

There seems to have been a clock in the turret in 1649, and in 1653 a sun dial was added, at a cost of 2*s.* 6*d.* When the steeple was raised

in 1682, a new clock was erected. From an old illustration of the tower we find that it had but one dial, and this on the eastern front, and was mounted on a diamond shaped facia. This clock seems to have been constantly out of repair, the accounts showing many various amounts paid for reparation, and

In 1717 we find it ordered "That a new clock for the Church be ordered and the old one in the steeple sold."

In 1721.—It is ordered that "the Vestry agree to the Report now made about a newe clocke, and that it will cost £340, or thereabouts, to provide one, and to *defray the repairs of the Church.*"

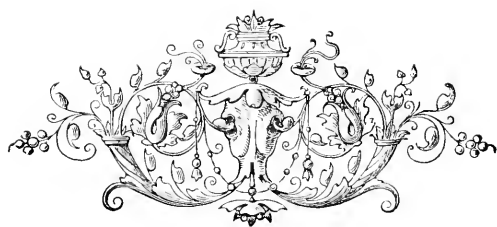
This "newe clocke" has two dials, one on the east face of the tower, and the other on the north. Various repairs have been effected during the 160 years since it was made, but no serious alterations have been necessary, and it is now one of the best time-keepers in the City.

In 1722 we find that a Mr. Bradley, clockmaker, is paid £160.

The Mr. Bradley above referred to, is the celebrated Lang Bradley, who, just before this time, erected the clocks at St. Paul's Cathedral.

The clock within the Church is of handsome design, enriched with clusters of Cherubim, but neither the minute nor account books give any clue to the date of its erection or its cost, unless it be included in the above payment. In 1708 a clock in the Church is mentioned, and from the general design, that now in the Church is the one referred to, as it undoubtedly belongs to the early part of the Eighteenth Century.







THE CHIMING MACHINE.

THIS machine was made by George Harman (a cooper by trade) of High Wycombe, Bucks, and set up in the steeple in 1794. Harman had previously made a set of chimes for his own Parish Church, for Watford, and for Christ Church, Spitalfields, London. The last gained him much notoriety; but the machine made for St. Giles, Cripplegate, surpassed any of his previous works, and is even now considered one of the finest in the kingdom. The chimes are constructed to play seven tunes upon a running peal of twelve bells in the key of C, the tunes being as follows :—

Sunday—"Easter Hymn."

Monday—"National Anthem."

Tuesday—"Auld Lang Syne."

Wednesday—"Hanover."

* Thursday—"Hark! 'tis the bells."

Friday—"Mariners' Hymn."

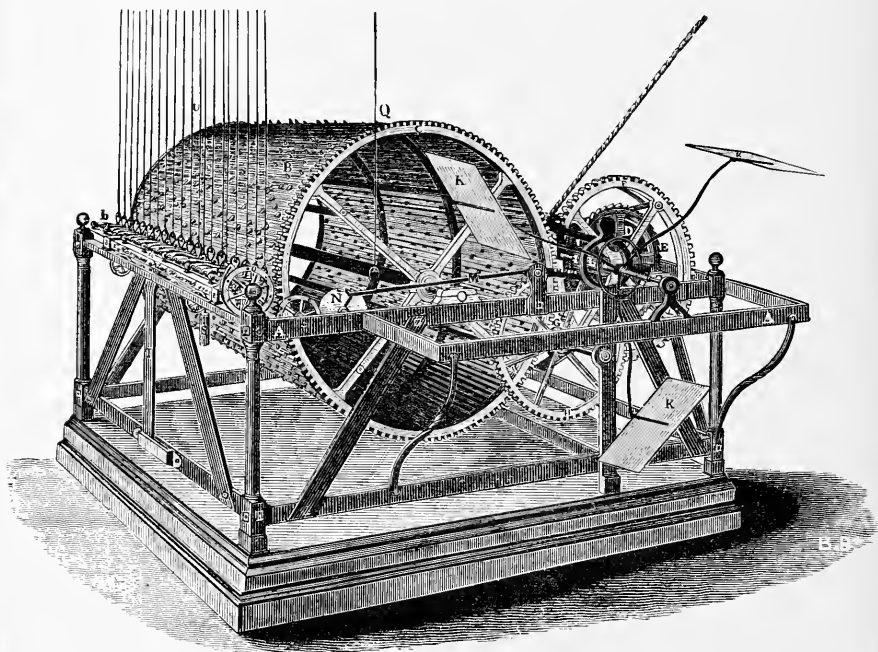
Saturday—"Home, sweet home."

The machine consists of an iron frame, indicated by the letter (A); a barrel (B), having 148 gun-metal ribs, between which are placed, secured by nuts and collars on the inside, the 680 cams. These again, by depressing the levers (*b b*), raise by means of the wires (U) the hammers, and these, when released, strike the bells fixed in an upper chamber of the tower. The levers are fitted to a shaft attached to a bar (R) working over rollers in bearings (*a a*), and kept in position by weights (S) against snail (O). This again is divided into steps of varying heights to suit the cams for each tune; the bar (R) being also steadied in the centre by an iron bar (T).

The chiming barrel is made to revolve by a weight suspended from the barrel (D); the letter (E) representing a ratchet in which a click acts as a detent, for the purpose of winding up the weight. Upon the spindle of

* The tune described as "Hark! 'tis the bells," has been generally recognised as a modification of "Caller Herrin," without the final call.

this barrel is (F) the main wheel to which the click is attached. (G) represents a pinion driven by the main wheel, and driving the chime-barrel by means of wheel (C). Attached to pinion (G) is a wheel (H) driving the pinion (I) on the shaft of which is the fly or governor (K K K), and (L) a box containing a spring, with a nib which locks against the lever (M), when the same falls into the notch of disc (N) at the conclusion of each tune. The lever (M) is raised by the striking train of the clock at certain hours, and on being released allows the machine



THE CHIMING MACHINE.

to commence working, (Q) is the discharging wire in connection with this. The wheels of the machine are of brass, the barrel ends and the spindles of iron, with iron straps, nuts and screws to regulate the tension of the wires.

The following are the minutes of the Vestry in connection with the Chiming Machine :—

Jan. 26, 1792.—“ That a set of Chimes on 12 bells be put up in the steeple agreeable to the Estimate now delivered by Mr. George Harman of High Wycombe in Bucks who proposes to re-cast the old Treble Bell (which is crackt) and to cast two new Bells at his own expense.”

"That said Mr. Harman be employed to make the said sett of Chimes with a brass barrd barrel to play seven tunes such as the Gentlemen of the Vestry shall appoint and to re-cast the said old Bell and cast two new additional Bells agreeable to his Estimate and proposal for the sum of £400."

April 8, 1793.—Ordered, "That the twelve Bells in the steeple be made to ring in peal, the expence not to exceed the sum of £60."

June, 1793.—Ordered, "That a Committee be chosen to select and direct what tunes shall be played on the Chimes and to see that the 12 Bells be made to ring the peal.

Feb. 6, 1794.—The committee appointed to select and direct what Tunes should be played on the Chimes, Reporting to this Vestry "That the Chime Tunes set on the Bells are made compleat," It was ordered "That Mr. Harman be paid for the same agreeable to his Contract."

"That Mr. Manesiere (who was appointed by the Committee to see that the tunes were properly pricked on the barrel and to assist Mr. Harman in setting the same to music) be paid Five guineas for his trouble."

Mar. 12, 1795.—Ordered that the Committee appointed to select and direct which tunes should be played on the Chimes and to see that the Bells be made to ring in peal be desired to meet Mr. Harman on his coming to Town to inspect the Chimes which are in want of repair.

April 14, 1795.—"That a proper person in the musical line be employed to inspect the Chimes to see if they are made and finished in a workmanlike manner and report to the next Vestry whether they are or not. £2 guineas to be allowed for Inspection." Selection left to "Committee on Tunes to be played."

April 17, 1795.—Pursuant to your request I examined your Chimes and have taken a comparative view of them and of the Chimes of "Spitalfields" though the last mentioned are a piece of good work it is in every respect inferior to yours, and I have no doubt of yours giving both present and future satisfaction to the Parish—Signed, James Green, Philpot Lane.

April 22, 1795.—Mr. James Green having by the Committee for directing the Chimes been appointed to inspect the same—and he having by letter signified to the Vestry his full approbation thereof—order that the thanks of this Vestry be given to the said Mr. Green for his trouble and attention in inspecting the chimes and that this order be fairly engrossed and sent to him by the Vestry Clerk.

The Chimes have given satisfaction to the present day, and with the exception of some repairs in 1849, executed by Messrs. Thwaites and Reed, and a few trifling alterations in 1877, but little expense has been necessary in keeping the machine in order. But in 1887 it was thought necessary to give it and the bells a thorough overhauling. This was done by Messrs. John Moore and Sons, who made several rectifications, replanted the bearers, made all the lifts of equal length, replacing a number of worn and defective cams, and re-set all the old tunes, making the machine once more as good as when first set up.





EXTRACTS FROM THE REGISTERS
OF
CHRISTENINGS, MARRIAGES, & BURIALS :
FROM 1561 TO 1700.

THE Register Books have been carefully kept and strongly bound ; great credit being due to Vicars and Churchwardens for the excellent state of preservation in which they now are.

They commence in 1561 and are continuous to the present time. From 1561 to 1700 inclusive there are about 79,600 Christening, 12,140 Marriage, and 127,200 Burial entries in the Registers. The first volume is of paper, the others of vellum down to the year 1813 ; all the older volumes down to 1667 have been carefully rebound. The first book, extending from 1561 to 1588, has been copied into the first book of vellum, and page after page of the copy attested to be correct by the signatures of "Barcroft," the Curate, and the Churchwardens at the time (from 1597 to 1600). The entries have been engrossed from time to time (probably from rough copies), under the charge and superintendence of the successive Parish Clerks. The names of some of these are appended :—

- 1578.—Luke Bell Clarke of this parish (buried 13 Dec^r).
- 1599–1600.—Richard Pawson, Sadler and Parish Clerke.
- 1603–1616.—William Plomer, Baker and Parish Clerke (buried 26th Nov^r).
- 1618–25.—William Eccles, Parish Clerke (buried 24th August).
- 1627–1641.—Thomas Cotes, Stationer and Parish Clerke (buried 15th July).
- 1641.—James Andrewes one of the Clerkes of this Parish (buried 15 Dec^r).
- 1644–65.—Nicholas Pine, Hosier and Parish Clerke (buried 21 Aug^t).
- 1665.—Thomas Luckeyn (Rev^d.) Parish Clerke.
- 1666.—Thomas Foyer, Parish Clerke.
- 1668.—John Tibboles, Parish Clerke (buried 2^d Oct^r).
- 1672.—Thomas Quartermaine, Parish Clerke (buried 23^d Nov^r).
- 1672–1695.—John Pine, Parish Clerke (buried).
- 1695–1708.—William Barnsley, Parish Clerke (buried 21st Oct.).
- 1711.—John Walker Parish Clerke.
- 1716.—James Cornelius (Rev^d.) Parish Clerke.
- 1717–30.—Richard Venn (Rev^d.) Parish Clerke.
- 1732.—Richard Peake, Deputy Parish Clerke.
- 1760.—William Ayscough, Parish Clerke.
- 1800.—William Ayscough, Parish Clerke (buried).

The years prefixed are those in or between which the name occurs in the Registers or Minute Books.

The appointment of Parish Clerk seems to have been made by the Vicar, and in some cases the Vestry concur, in others there is no trace. The only appointment made by the parishioners in Vestry assembled is that of Nicholas Pine, whose name occurs as Parish Clerke from 1644 till his death, during the Plague, in August, 1665.

As before stated the entries in the Registers do not seem to have always been made at the time, as the following extracts from the Minutes and Account Books show :—

1648.—“Volume of Registers from 1646 to 1653 was not provided till two years after the date in the title of the Book which was in the year of our Lord God 1648.”

— Paid for a Register Book in vellum £4 18s. (This volume has a beautifully engraved title-page.)

1648.—Paid to the Clerke for two yeares and a halfe registering of Christenings, Weddings and Burialls for want of a Register Book of Parchment, for the better performing thereof he bought a Register Booke of Paper which cost him 2s. the which he entered them all in and afterwards engrossed them in the Parchment Register £2.

1676.—“Thomas Quartermaine the Clerke having left 15 or 16 months of Christenings Weddings and Burials to be entered it is ordered that 25s. be allowed for entering them in the Registers.”

1697.—It was ordered, “That Two large Parchment leaved books for registering the Christenings Weddings and Burials be forthwith provided.”

1701.—Mr William Barnsley Clerke of the Parish doth deserve 15s. for registering the births burialls and marriages omitted in the late Mr Pine’s time—it is ordered to be paid when the work is finished.”

The following extracts are given as *examples* of the entries ; many of them are of great interest, and one intimately acquainted with the history of any period over which the Registers extend will find much information as to the family history of the inhabitants of Cripplegate.

At the head of each list respectively is placed the first entry of a Christening, Wedding, or Burial in the Registers.

CHRISTENINGS.

Richard Grove, the sonne of Robert Grove, y^e xxix day of March, 1561.

Jan. 4, 1577-8.—Elizabeth Draunte D^r of Thomas Draunte.

Mar. 6, 1580-1.—Elizabeth, D^r of the Lord Willowbye.

Dec. 13, 1582.—Rawley Gilbourne, son of Sir Umfrey Gilbourne.*

July 16, 1584.—Gabriel and Ann Targye son and daughter of John Targye servant with the Lady Gylbourde.

June 28, 1584.—Elizabeth Mundaye d^r of Antonie Munday Gent^r.

April 30, 1586.—Catherine Bartye D^r of Peregrine Bartie, the Lord Willobie.†

* Sir Humphrey Gilbert, mentioned as living in the Parish, pp. 14, 138.

† Entries referring to the Willoughbie family and servants occur down to 1600.

- Nov. 13, 1586.—Dionise D^r of Richard Haithway Maister of Arts.
 Feb. 10, 1586-7.—Comedia, D^r of William Johnson, one of the Queen's players.
 Oct. 17, 1587.—Nathan son of John Fyeldes* preacher.
 Feb. 14, 1588-9.—Thomas the son of Thomas Morley, Organist.
 Mar. 10, 1589-90.—Henry the son of Peregrine Bartye Lo: Willoughbie.
 Oct. 27, 1594.—Dorcas, D^r of Thomas Dycker, Gent.
 Dec. 9, 1599.—Joseph, the son of Beniamyne Johnson.†
 Sept. 24, 1606.—John, son of William Sly, player.

The three following entries show how the Parish kept itself secure from supporting children whose parents did not reside in the Parish :—

- Sept. 10, 1591.—Charles the son of John Thomson borne in the house of Gillies Davies, in Golding Lane, which Davies is bound in xx lb. to discharge the parish. The bande lieth in the chest in the Vestry.
 Feb. 18, 1596-7.—Edward, son of Robert Wall, Sailor, from Thomas Wallis, White-cross Street, Banded in M^r Robinson's hands, Constable in Goswell Street to discharge the Parish.
 Oct. 22, 1621.—Richard son of Henry Clarke Gent^l deceased. M^r Wilson preacher Godfather took order with M^r Clarke for to discharge the parish.
 May 16, 1607.—John son of Sir William Twissenden, K^{nt}.
 Jan. 30, 1607-8.—Francis sonne of Sir William Morrison, K^{nt}.
 Sept. 20, 1609.—Thomas sonne of Sir Francis Hubbard, K^{nt}.
 Feb. 13, 1611-12.—Jeromy sonne of Sir Peter Mansood, K^{nt}.
 Mar. 22, 1611-12.—Henry sonne of Sir Henry Gray, K^{nt}.
 Jan. 12, 1612-13.—Katherine daughter of Edward Paulvazine, gent^l.
 April 7, 1613.—Edward sonne of M^r Edward Groome Minister of this Parish.
 Oct. 1, 1615.—Dorothie D^r of Thomas Farnaby, gent^l.
 June 29, 1624.—The Lady Elizabeth Bourghchier daughter to the Right Hon. Edward and Dorythie, Earl and Countesse of Bath.
 June 29, 1624.—Richard son of M^r ———, gentleman, from the house of Sir William Twissenden, his father-in-law.
 June 30, 1628.—Martha d^r of M^r Thomas Kenne,† gent^l.

Frequent entries are met with referring to the family and assistants of the famous schoolmaster, Thomas Farnaby :—

- Dec. 11, 1628.—Charles son of M^r Thomas Farnaby, gent^l.
 Jan. 27, 1629-30.—Frances D^r of Thomas Farnaby, schoolemaster.
 Feb. 23, 1629-30.—Mary d^r of Thomas Kenne Gentlemen.
 July 10, 1632.—Hyon son of Thomas Kenne Gentle:
 Apr. 17, 1633.—Christian Jone, an heathen aged about 15 years from the House of Robert Eyton in 3 Herring Court in Redcross Street.

* Field was a noted Puritan, who objected to affirm that the Book of Common Prayer contained in it nothing contrary to the Word of God. On the title-page of one of his books he is styled Minister of Cripple-gate. J. Payne Collier says: His son Nathan—or Nathaniel—was a noted actor in the next generation.

† More familiarly known as Ben Jonson.

‡ This, and other entries quoted in the Christenings and Burials, are believed to refer to the family of Thomas Ken, the father of the saintly Thomas Ken, Bishop of Bath and Wells, author of the well-known Morning and Evening Hymns.

- Dec. 15, 1635.—William son of Sir Roger Twisden, K^{nt}. and Bart.
 Jan. 12, 1637-8.—William son of William Fuller Vicar of St. Giles and Deane of Elye.
 Dec. 13, 1639.—One —— found in Redcross Street at Sir Roger Twisden his door
 y^e father and mother unknown.
 Feb. 11, 1640-1.—Timothy sonne of M^r. Timothy Hutton, Curate of the Parish.
 Mar. 16, 1640-1.—Martin son of Thomas Kenn.
 Dec. 26, 1642.—Jacob son of W^m. Ffenn mercer born in the Parish of St. Michael's
 in Wood Street and baptized in the same Parish by M^r. Timothy Hutton Curate
 of this Parish upon a sudden and urgent occation.
 Nov. 9, 1646.—John the sonne of the Right Hon. John Egerton Earle of Bridgewater
 and the Lady Elizabeth his wife borne.
 June 7, 1648.—Frances son of the Earl of Bridgewater, borne.
 Aug. 15, 1649.—William, " " "
 Nov. 13, 1649.—Eliza D^{ch} of M^r. Thomas Twysden,* gen^t.
 Aug. 24, 1653.—Elizabeth, daughter of the Earle of Bridgewater.
 Dec. 30, 1654.—Rob: sonne of Rob Bartlett birdcage maker late of the parish of
 S. Buttolph Algate, London, Anabaptist, being foure yeares of age and upwards
 was christened in our parish Church upon the 30th day of December 1654 at the
 instant request of Richard Lane Scrivenor of our parish of St. Giles: Christened
 p: Allex: Kellie, Minister.
 Oct. 28, 1657.—Bryan son of Bryan Walton, D.D., and of Jane, born 24th October.
 Jan. 31, 1663-4.—Thomas son of Sir William Davenett, Knight, and of Dame Mary,
 borne 14th January.
 July 27, 1665.—Edward son of Thomas Luckeyne, Gen^l. and Curate of this parish
 and of Anne.
 May 13, 1675.—Robert son of Robert Sidney Esq^r. only son of Philip Lord Viscount
 Lisle eldest son of Robert Earle of Leicester was borne the 6th day of May.
 Feb. 17, 1679-80.—John Sidney 4th son to Robert Lord Viscount Lisle was borne
 the 14th day of February.
 Aug. 14, 1681.—Scroope Egerton son of the Right Hon. John Lord Viscount Brackley
 and the Lady Jane his wife was borne the 11th day of August.
 May 16, 1700.—John son of Bernard Mandeville (Freedom), D^{ch}. of Physick, and Joyce,
 borne 4th May.

There are over 220 entries of French Protestants who died in the
 "Lordship" from the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes, in 1685, down
 to the end of the Century. This probably explains "Mandeville's" first
 settlement in Cripplegate.

A few entries relating to the Cages, or Cadges, as they are called—
 refuges for poor and destitute wanderers.

- Jan. 17, 1581-2.—Willym the son of Leonard Rule borne in the Cage without
 Cripplegate.
 Jan. 21, 1586-7.—Jane the daughter of Evans Jones serving man borne in the Cage
 at Grub Street ende.

* Thomas Twysden was son of Sir William Twisden, or Twissenden, in the Register. He was
 made Serjeant-at-Law by Cromwell; then imprisoned by him for the vigour with which he defended
 the Corporation of London, who had retained him. He was advanced to the Bench, and finally made
 a Baronet by Charles II. He married Jane Thomlinson, sister of Colonel Thomlinson, who commanded
 the Guards at the execution of Charles I, and to whom the King gave his Ribbon and George upon the
 scaffold.

- Aug. 14, 1627.—Jane Dr. of John Parfitt borne in the Cage at Moore Lane end.
Nov. 30, 1595.—A woman from the Cage at Golding Lane ende, unknown, buried.
Nov. 6, 1599.—Jane Martin, widow, from the Cage in Old Street, buried.
Aug. 13, 1603.—Henry Fox out of Cage in Chiswell Street, buried.

MARRIAGES.

- April 13, 1561.—Roger Sylvester and Ellen Jeffery.
Sept. 30, 1566.—William Bullen gen^t. and Ann Defeilde.
Jan. 30, 1569.—Ralphe Merryweather and Margery Standback.
April 19, 1571.—Gilles Quarrell and Prudence English.
Dec. 20, 1573.—John Cockeram gent. and Elizabeth Fryer gentlewoman.
June 4, 1574.—John Weybourne mynister and Hellen Gwyllym.
Jan. 6, 1577-8.—Charles Langley and Hellen Eccles. [Charles Langley was Churchwarden at the time of transcribing the names from the paper Register to the one on vellum, and superintended the work.]
Jan. 19, 1580.—Mr. Thomas Sackfield and Mrs. Anne Sadler, by license.
June 12, 1580.—Mr. Thomas Parmyter gent. and Francis Bowes by license.
Feb. 26, 1581-2.—Mr. Anthony Barnars of Fryarnynge and Mrs. Elize Chalton of Wishbytych in Cambridge Sheire by certificate.
Nov. 20, 1581.—Mr. Stephen Lake, Docter of Lawe and Mrs. Elizabeth Chapman by lycense.
May 31, 1582.—Edward Isham gent. and Majory Thacker were married in a house by license.
Aug. 1, 1594.—Nathanyell Gardyner and Katheren Camber by Mr. Doctor Ridley his certificat.
Mar. 10, 1597-8.—The Lord Henry Barclay and the Lady Jane Townesend.
Feb. 4, 1607-8.—Sir William Harvey Kn^t. and the Lady Cordelia Ansley.
Aug. 11, 1613.—Sir John Molyneaux Kn^t. and the Lady Annie Fuljambe.
Dec. 1, 1618.—Sir Thomas Parker Kn^t. and the Lady Philadelphia Leonard.
Aug. 22, 1620.—Oliver Crumwell and Elizabeth Bourcher.
Feb. 4, 1629-30.—Mr. Robert Skerne Esq^r. and the Lady Ann Cocket.
April 20, 1630.—Sir Christopher Yelverton and Mrs. Anne Twisden.
Dec. 30, 1641.—John Hopton Esq^r. and the Lady Margaret Ley daughter to the Right Hon. James Earle of Marleborough, deceased.
Dec. 10, 1662.—Sir Edward Morreyse and Jane Clarke.
Nov. 17, 1664.—The Right hon^{ble}. John Vicount Brackley, eldest sonn to the Right hon^{ble}. John Earle of Bridgewater was married to y^e Right hon^{ble}. y^e Lady Elizabeth Cranfeild y^e 17th day of November 1664 By his Grace Gilbert Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, in the Chappell at Bridgewater house in Barbican.
Dec. 2, 1669.—Tho: Vaux and Mary Hawes Ear^{le} Bridgwa^{ter}. Chappwell (by Docto^r Zanke y:)
May 5, 1672.—Robert Sidney, Esq^r. the only son of the Right Hono^{bl}. Phillip Lord Lisle, and Grandson to the Right Hono^{bl}. Robert Sidney Earle of Leicester, was married to the Lady Elizabeth Egerton (the only Daughter of the Right Hono^{bl}. John Egerton Earle of Bridgwater,) the 5th day of May 1672 by Dr. Sankey in Bridgwater house Chappel in Barbican.
April 2, 1673.—The Right Hono^{ble}. John Vicount Brockley, Eldest sonne to the Right Hon^{ble}. John Earle of Bridgwater was married to the Lady Jane Pawlett, eldest daughter to the Right Hon^{ble}. Charles Lord St. John of Bazing, eldest sonne to the Right Hon^{ble}. the Marquess of Winchester the second day of April 1673 by Dr. Clement Sankey in the Chappell belonging to the Charterhouse with Licence from the Bishop of London.

June 24, 1697.—Sir Roger Bradshaw and Madam Rachel Guise.

Dec. 1, 1702.—Peter Whitcombe to the Honourable Gertrude Arundell.

—
BURIALS.

Jane Reve, the daughter of John Reve, was buried y^e xxvi March 1561.

Old Mother Morys of Beech Lane, buried y^e xxx November 1562.

Mother Sparrowe, buried y^e ix December 1562.

Old Mother Christian y^e xiii December 1562.

Old Father Brazier y^e x March 1562-3.

Sept. 30, 1562.—Sir Henry Graye, Knight.

Oct. 4, 1563.—Robert Benburke,* Mynister.

Oct. 5, 1563.—Christopher Dorman Minstrell and Wayte of the Cytte.

Oct. 8, 1563.—Walter Tempest Mynister.

In the Plague of 1563, during June and July, 38 "Duchmen" and "Duch Fraus" were buried. Does this imply a colony of Dutchmen settled in Cripplegate, who had fled from the persecution of Philip of Spain, in the Low Countries?

Nov. 1, 1567.—Margaret Foxe the daughter of John Foxe.

July 22, 1577.—John the Duchess of Suffolk's Horsekeeper.

Mar. 22, 1578-9.—Devower a Stranger from my Lady Duchess.

May 6, 1580.—Miscellus servant with the Lady Duchess.

April 23, 1583.—Richard Smith Master of Defence householder.

Mar. 26, 1585.—Humphrie, the son of Sir Humphrie Gilberde Knight.

July 2, 1588.—Robert Crowley Vicar of the Parish of St. Giles.

Nov. 21, 1589.—George Coneway,† Mynister of St. Giles.

Oct. 26, 1563.—Mayster Bullin y^e faithfull preacher of Godes Most holy word.

Dec. 8, 1566.—Mr. Huntleye the Mynister.

June 3, 1569.—Ails. Walsay a nonne.

Dec. 2, 1570.—Mr. Robert Smart sword-bearer of London.

Apr. 17, 1573.—Reignold Gray, Comes Kancie.

Jan. 9, 1575-6.—Mr. William Bullen, physitian.

May 1, 1577.—Dorcas, the daughter of Mr. Thomas Draunte.

Apr. 16, 1578.—Mr. Thomas Draunte Bachelor in Divinity, and Vicker of this Church.

Dec. 16, 1590.—Catheren, daughter of Sir Drue Drewry, Kn^t.

May 17, 1591.—John Hilliare Goldsmith, deputie.

Jan. 16, 1593-4.—Joseph, the son of John Speede merchant tailor.

Jan. 14, 1594-5.—Sir Martyn Furbusher, Kn^t.

June 4, 1595.—Ladie Elizabeth, wife of Sir Francis Wyllboubie.

Sept. 17, 1596.—Frances Gibbs, a mayde dwelling in the Church Porch.

Oct. 16, 1596.—Gyllymeth, daughter of William Fox, Minstrell.

Nov. 16, 1596.—Sir Francis Wyllowbie Kn^t.

Nov. 21, 1596.—Sir John Buck Kn^t.

Aug. 23, 1600.—Mr. — Fox, in French Alley, householder.

Nov. 20, 1600.—Robert Wylson Yeoman and player.

* A Son and Daughter of Robert Benburke were buried within eight days before his death, and a Son and the Wife of Walter Tempest ten days after his death. This was a Plague year.

† A note in contemporary hand-writing on the fly-leaf of the Register Book contains this entry, "George Conway came to serve the cure on St. Thomas' day in the year of our Lord 1578." At the end of the first volume of the Register, 14th November, 1588, in a bold strong hand-writing, the same as the entries are, "finis quod George Conway."

- Feb. 9, 1604.—Thomas Fox, son of William Fox, Mynestrell.
Apr. 14, 1605.—Robert sonne of Sir William Wharewood, Knt^r.
Julie 5, 1605.—M^r. — Marback, doctor of phisick.
Sept. 10, 1605.—Katherine, wyfe of Sir Lewes Lewtner.
May 4, 1607.—John sonne of Sir William Jones, Knt^r.
June 8, 1607.—Elizabeth daughter of Sir Thomas Harris Knt^r.
Nov. 23, 1608.—M^r. Vandoll from the Lord Embassadors of Spaine at y^e Lord
Willowbies in Barbican.
Sept. 13, 1610.—M^r. Humphrie Barcroft, * Clerke, Mynester of this Parish.
Apr. 2, 1612.—Henry sonne of Sir Henry Lea, Knt^r.
Dec. 18, 1612.—Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Thomas Fulcham Knt^r.
Feb. 10, 1613.—M^r. Edward Groome, Clarke and Minister of this P^{ish}.
Maye 16, 1618.—The Ladie Elizabeth wife of Sir Anthony Hungerford Knt^r.
May 23, 1618.—Anne daughter of Sir Henry Crooke Knt^r.
Feb. 11, 1618-9.—Sir James Bacon, Knt^r.
June 26, 1620.—The Ladie Thorney, buried at Canterbury.
Dec. 31, 1620.—James Lord Brackley sonne to the Right Hounorable John Lord of
Bridgewater.
Oct. 1, 1624.—Alice wife of Jacob Beluah, an excommunicated person, bury'd by
authority from the Ordnarie.
June 29, 1625.—M^r. John Juxon, preacher of St. Albans, Wood Street.
July 11, 1625.—Thomas, sonne of M^r. Thomas Mackernesse Minister of this Parish.
July 18th, 1625.—M^r. Thomas Goodal, Minister, from the house of M^r. Mackernesse.
Aug. 5, 1625.—M^r. Thomas Mackernesse, † Minister of this Parische.

The year 1625 was a "Plague" year, leaving its traces in many family bereavements. The entries in the Registers show that in July there were 1,260 burials.

- Apr. 21, 1626.—The Lady Sisley daughter to y^e Earle of Bridgewater.
 May 8, 1626.—A son of Sir Richard Bittison Kn^t.
 Mar. 27, 1627.—Henry sonne of Sir Henry Crooke.
 Mar. 15, 1627-8.—Sir Nedtracie Smarte, Kn^t.
 Mar. 27, 1628.—Sir Thomas Liddell.
 Mar. 31, 1628.—Susan, wife of John Speed, gen^t.
 May 25, 1628.—M^{rs}. Constance Whitney gentleⁿ.
 Mar. 13, 1628-9.—M^{rs}. Anne, daughter of Sir Richard Baker Kn^t.
 May 14, 1629.—Eliz: daughter of the Lady Liddall.
 July 31, 1629.—M^r. John Speed, Merchantalor.
 Jan. 22, 1630-31.—The Lady Mary, wife of Sir Jarvis Clifton Kn^t.
 Feb. 9, 1630-31.—M^r. Richard Budd, auditor.
 Sept. 27, 1632.—Mary daughter of M^r. Thomas Kenne.
 Nov. 18, 1634.—Margaret daughter of Sir Thomas Lucie Kn^t.
 Feb. 20, 1635-6.—Thomas son of Thomas Kenn gen^t.
 Sept. 30, 1635.— daughter of Henry Milton gen^t.
 Oct. 11, 1636.—Mary Villier, servant to M^r. Henry Welby gentleman.
 Oct. 20, 1636.—M^r. Henry Welby[†] gentleman.
 Oct. 24, 1636.—Zurishaddai, son of Samuel Eaton button maker. } both buried together.
 Oct. 24, 1636.—Obadiah " " " " }

* He seems to have been at St. Giles, under both Dr. Andrewes and Dr. Buckeridge. The births and deaths of several sons and daughters occur in the Register.

† He left by his Will £10 to the poor of the Parish.

‡ The Hermit of Gubb Street.

- Mar. 12, 1637-8.—Alice Kemp, servant to Samuel Eaton button maker.
 April 18, 1638.—M^r. Alexander Torriano, Italian Minister.
 Sept. 21, 1638.—M^r. Edward Fuller Curate of this Parish.
 Mar. 15, 1638-9.—M^r. Nathaniell Harwood Curate of this Parish.
 Feb. 2, 1638-9.—Gregory Elinore, button maker, being excommunicated, was buried in the highway.
 July 26, 1639.—John Mud clerk als: quaerister of S^t. Paules.
 Dec. 7, 1639.—Mary, daughter of Thomas Ken gen^t.
 Mar. 19, 1640.—Martha wife of Thomas Ken Gen^t.
 Mar. 26, 1640.—Martin son of Thomas Ken, Gentleman.
 Jan. 17, 1641-2.—Thomas Hinman yeoman out of the Cage.
 Oct. 3, 1641.—Sir Henry Spillman Kn^t.
 — 1648.—Frances the daughter of the Right Hon. John Egerton, Earl of Bridgewater and the Lady Eliz. his wife died in our P^{ish} upon the 13 day of Sep^r. 1648, and was buried at Little Gadsden, Hertfordshire.
 Nov. 3, 1649.—Samuel, son of Samuel Torshell,* minister.
 Dec. 19, 1649.—Anne daughter of Humphrey Charles sawyer, killed by her mistress by immoderate whipping.
 Dec. 15, 1651.—Walter, Carp: hanged at Tybourne for robbery.
 Sept. 23, 1652.—M^r. Robert Maynwaring, gen^t. deputy of this P^{ish}.
 July 29, 1653.—Peter son of John Webb husbandman.
 Nov. 3, 1657.—A blackamore called Yahow from M^r. Powell against Bunhill.
 Mar. 16, 1657-8.—Eliz. daughter of Rob. Barnard E^{sq}. of Sibley, co. Leicestershire, from St. Leonard, Foster Lane. (Church.)
 April 27, 1658.—William Burges, M.D. (Church.)
 Nov. 5, 1658.—Edward Rowland doctor of physick.
 April 7, 1659.— — From Abbot a glover in French ally a quaker, will not let it be searched.
 July 23, 1659.—Henrietta, daughter of Sir Herbert Whitfield Kn^t. at Aldermay.
 July 30, 1665.—Tho^s. Radcliffe, a P^{ish} child.
 July 30, 1665.—Catherine Wright a foundlin.
 Aug. 10, 1665.—Mary d^r. of Lancelot Crofts, gen^t.
 Aug. 10, 1665.—Mary wife of „ „ (18 entries between).
 Aug. 12, 1665.—Tho. Blizard, Coppersmith, Churchwarden in being.
 Aug. 12, 1665.—Eliz: his daughter (the next entry).
 Aug. 14, 1665.—Edward Jarvis, Broaker, Churchwarden in being.
 Aug. 21, 1665.—Nicholas Pine, Parish Clerke.
 Aug. 21, 1665.—Elizabeth his wife (the next entry).
 Aug. 27, 1665.—Sam: Austin minister.
 Aug. 27, 1665.—Mary his wife (the next entry).
 Aug. 28, 1665.—W^m. son of Matthew Jumper, Gen^t.
 Aug. 28, 1665.—Benjamin son of Matthew Jumper Gen^t (there are 76 burials entered between).
 Sept. 1, 1665.—Isabella d^r. of Edw. Bolneste† D^r. Physicke.
 Sept. 3, 1665.—David Barton son-in-law to D^r. Bolneste.
 Sept. 6, 1665.—John Askew minister.
 Sept. 6, 1665.—Susan his wife (the next entry).
 Sept. 15, 1665.—Samuel Skelton, minister.

* Torshell was appointed minister at Cripplegate by the Presbyterian Party. He was appointed in 1644 by the Parliament Tutor to the King's children. In the preface of one of his works he states, "I have read through the whole Bible with them in an expository way."

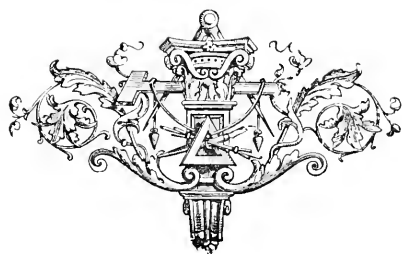
† Edward Bolneste (physician to Charles II in 1666) lived in Jewin Street, and was buried in St. Giles in 1697.

- Sept. 23, 1665.—Henry Morley, minister.
 Sept. 25, 1665.—Mary d^r. of Edward Bolnhest do^{tr}. of Physick.
 Sept. 30, 1665.—John Wall minister.
 Sept. 17, 1665.—Mary wife of Beniam Needler min^r.
 Oct. 21, 1665.—Hannah daughter of „ „ } Church.
 Nov. 1, 1665.—Mary „ „ „ }
 Nov. 12, 1674.—*L: John Milton, gentleman: Consumption: Chancel.
 Dec. 24, 1678.—Stuart Egerton Esq. fifth son to the Right Hon. John Earle of Bridgewater and the Lady Elizabeth his wife, departed this life the 20th day of Dec., and bury'd in the Church of Little Gadesden in the Countie of Hartford.
 Apr. 10, 1680.—William Sidney Esq. third son of Robert Viscount Lisle dyed y^e 2nd day of the same year.—Chancell.
 Jan. 21, 1681-2.—Mary daughter of Sir William Egerton K.B. and second son of Right Hon. John Earle of Bridgewater, dyed of Convulsion.--Chancel.
 May 18, 1682.—John Howes, page to His Royal Highness The Duke of York.
 Apr. 14, 1687.—The Hon. Charles and Thomas Egerton† Esq^{rs}, sons of the Right Hon. John Earle of Bridgewater at Little Gadsden Herts.
 Aug. 9, 1687.—The Lady Dorothy Mountague al's Male, widow.
 Sept. 20, 1688.—The Lady Mary Poe relict to William Poe esquire to the King's body, viz., to Charles I and II.
 Jan. 12, 1689-90.—Charles the son of Robert Viscount Lisle from Clerkenwell Parish.

* L. implies that Milton died in the "Lordship" part of the Parish.

† These youths, and a manservant, perished in the Fire which consumed Bridgewater House a few days before.







THE ACCOUNT AND MINUTE BOOKS.

The old Account and Minute Books of the Vestry now existing are :—

- 1.—The Accounts of Sworder's Charity from 1582 to 1618 in one book. This book also contains copies of Sworder's, Busby's, Mason's, White's, Western's, Day's, Bradshawe's, Myllen's (Lordship), Baron or Barnes', Smith's and Snow's Wills, of some letters referring to the dispute between the Freedom and Lordship as to the Highways, and papers relating to Parish Charities.
- 2.—Account of Sir John Fenner's gifts from 1655 to 1689.
- 3.—The "Grand Accounts" of the Parish from 1648 to 1669—containing Receipts, Expenditure, and Inventories.
- 4.—Accounts of Whitecross Street Charities from 1665 to 1689.
- 5.—Minute Book of General Vestry from 3rd April, 1659, down to the erection of St. Luke's Church, and separation of the two Vestries in 1732. This book also contains the Minutes of the Joint Committee of the two Parishes on charitable trusts down to the end of the 18th Century.
- 6.—Minute Book of St. Giles' Vestry from 1692 to 1783.
- 7.—Churchwardens' Accounts for 1725.
- 8.—Accounts for Casual Poor, 1742.

There are also the Rate Books of the Parish almost without break from 1710 to the present time. The books of Accounts contain many interesting entries. The annual audit is in each case signed by the Vestrymen present at the audit. In the various books may be seen the signatures of different Vicars, as well as of men whose names are still

familiar from their charities or their public life. Fac-similes of three of the most noted Vicars' signatures are shown below:—

Robert Crombly Vicar.

Samuel Andrews Vicar.

Annesley Vicar.

William Bleyton, who makes his mark, does so in auditing Sworder's accounts.

It is chiefly from money derived from Bleyton's Will that the Workmen's Dwellings in Hoxton (named after him) were built.

Wm Bleyton

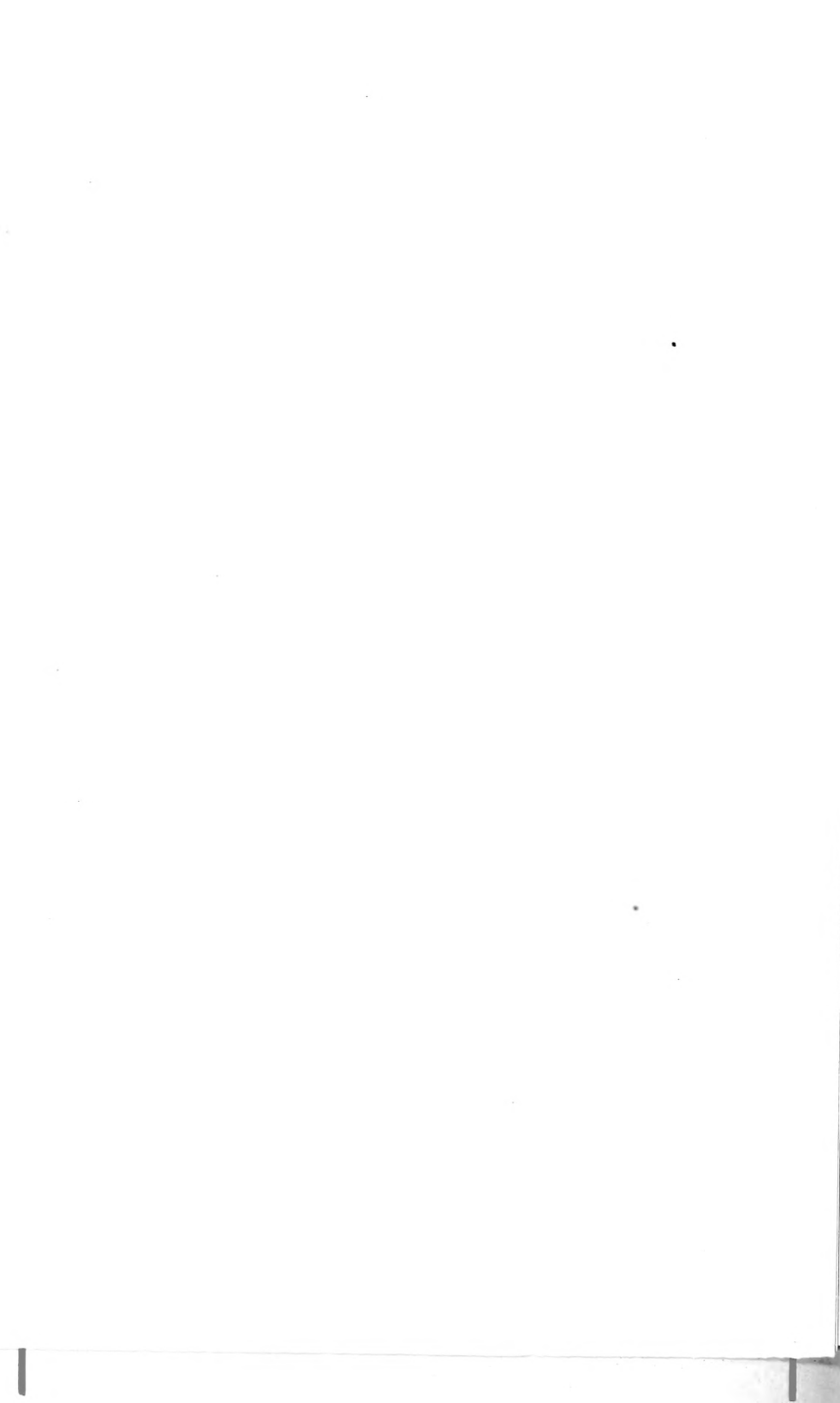
Wm Bleyton

Charles Langley and Edward Harvist, whose signatures are given below, were prominent men in the Parish.

Charles Langley

Edward Harvist Depnt.

Some varied extracts from the Accounts will be found interesting.



From Sir John Fenner's accounts the price of Bibles appears to have varied from 5*s.* 8*d.* in 1655 to 4*s.* 6*d.* in 1657, and to 7*s.* in 1667. They were possibly scarce after the destruction of stock in the Great Fire.

From the Whitecross Charity accounts the making of a shirt cost 4*d.*, 20 paire of shoes were had at 22*d.* per paire, and 12 paire of stockings at 12*d.* per pair.

1615.—Item, given to Mr^s Crawford to relieve her necessities being found of Mr. Swarder's kynne, 42/-.

1648.—Item, 40 dozen of Bread, £2.

(The year's distribution of Bread on Sundays and Fridays.)

1649.—Item, for a new *rowle* to call the poor by for Sunday and Friday's gifts.

1650.—For a curtain to keep the sun from the face of the Minister.

1652.—For Charcooles for the Minister in the Vestry, 2*s.*

— For a brass sundiall set on the top of the steeple, 2*s.* 6*d.*

An example of how leases were then settled—

	£	s.	d.
1654.—Expended when the lease was let of the Tenements in Sugar			
Loaf Court - - - - -	0	2	6
Dinner at the sealing of the Lease - - - - -	1	6	4
Fire and beare at the Quest House - - - - -	0	2	4
Dr. Fuller for a gratuity when he subscribed and sealed the Lease -	1	0	0
To his man Richard Harwood - - - - -	0	2	6
Carpenter and Bricklayer for twice viewing the tenements -	0	10	0
Expended at the two several views - - - - -	0	3	0
A messenger to Mr. C. about aforesaid Houses - - - - -	0	0	4

A fine of £260 was received for this lease (out of which the “four shoppes” were built). Was Dr. Fuller, who had been deprived by the dominant party, asked to “subscribe and seal” the lease to make assurance doubly sure? Harwood was Dr. Fuller's servant in 1629, and afterwards Sexton of the Church. He was buried in 1657, and is then still described as servant to Dr. Fuller.

	£	s.	d.
1655.—Paid for a Church Coffin - - - - -	0	5	6
1657.—For beere and sugar for the Minister in the Vestry - - -	0	2	0
For the workmens breakfasts when they were about the steeple -	0	16	8
Repairs on the steeple - - - - -	43	1	5
Smith, £10 12 <i>s.</i> 11 <i>d.</i> ; Carpenter, £12 3 <i>s.</i> ; Mason, £5 0 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ; Plumber, £9 5 <i>s.</i> ; Painter, £6.			

The Book of Common Prayer, in 1650, disappears from, and in 1660 re-appears in, the Inventories.



1649
1650



his 16th of May

of William Denton, Edward Patmarke
Roger Aschman, and Anthony Denton,
Churchwardens of the parish of St Giles
without Cripplegate, Shrove and Martin
before the parishioners of the said parish 12 day of
June 1649 to the 6th day of June 1650

the arrears of rents that Thomas White
left to be paid in or following 1648: x. x. x. x.

Receipt of arrears: 13



Item Received of Thomas Denton
rent due at 1648: x. x. x. x.

ff 18 s
04-00-00

Item Received of William Grey
rent due at Lady day 1649: x. x. x. x.

02-10-00

Item Received of Mary Perkins
rent due at Lady day 1649: x. x. x. x.

01-00-00

Item Received of William Sailor for one
year rent due at Lady day 1649: x. x. x. x.

01-00-00

Item Received of John Hadmore for one
year rent due at Lady day 1649: x. x. x. x.

01-00-00

Item Received of John Smith for one
year rent due at Lady day 1649: x. x. x. x.

04-00-00

Sum is 13-10-00

From Sir John Fenner's accounts the price of Bibles appears to have varied from 5*s.* 8*d.* in 1655 to 4*s.* 6*d.* in 1657, and to 7*s.* in 1667. They were possibly scarce after the destruction of stock in the Great Fire.

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Loaf Court - - - - -	0	2	6
Dinner at the sealing of the Lease - - - - -	1	6	4
Fire and beare at the Quest House - - - - -	0	2	4
D ^r . Fuller for a gratuity when he subscribed and sealed the Lease -	1	0	0
To his man Richard Harwood - - - - -	0	2	6
Carpenter and Bricklayer for twice viewing the tenements -	0	10	0
Expended at the two several views - - - - -	0	3	0
A messenger to M ^r . C. about aforesaid Houses - - - - -	0	0	4

A fine of £260 was received for this lease (out of which the "four shoppes" were built). Was Dr. Fuller, who had been deprived by the dominant party, asked to "subscribe and seal" the lease to make assurance doubly sure? Harwood was Dr. Fuller's servant in 1629, and afterwards Sexton of the Church. He was buried in 1657, and is then still described as servant to Dr. Fuller.

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For the workmens breakfasts when they were about the steeple -	0	16	8
Repairs on the steeple - - - - -	43	1	5
Smith, £10 12 <i>s.</i> 11 <i>d.</i> ; Carpenter, £12 3 <i>s.</i> ; Mason, £5 0 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ;			
Plumber, £9 5 <i>s.</i> ; Painter, £6.			

The Book of Common Prayer, in 1650, disappears from, and in 1660 re-appears in, the Inventories.

	£	s.	d.
1660.—Item, Common Prayer for the Minister - - - -	0	14	0
Do. do. for the Clerke - - - -	0	5	0
Six Testaments with Common Prayer - - - -	0	18	0
1661.—Two books of Common Prayer of the last Impression - -	0	18	0
Expended on the Constable and witnesses in taking their examination when the Common Prayer Book was stole away -	0	4	6

Was the book stolen by some fanatical objector or by a vulgar thief?

The next entry certainly implies irreverence in the Church (*see* also the extract for 1765).

	£	s.	d.
1663.—Paid to Anthony Sams for the arrest and charges concerning Andrew Harrison's sonne's hatt being taken off from his head in the Church - - - -	0	7	0
1663.—Received from Sir Reginald Foster for the use of the poor, £3, in lieu of a pew built by him.			
1664.—Paid for the burying of Goody Wentworth's child for a coffin, and other charges - - - -	0	2	6
— Paid to the Nurse for looking after Goody Wentworth when she was sick for 3 weeks - - - -	0	7	0
— Paid for a summons before the Lord Maior about the Pavements before the Church doors - - - -	0	2	6
— Paving before the Church door - - - -	0	15	8
1665.—Paid to Mr. Jackson Upholsterer for lynning the Doctors pew -	3	1	0
— Paid Mr. Conny for 4 Church Coffins bespoke by Mr. Gervis (<i>see</i> page 140) - - - -	1	6	0
— Expended in and about the burial of Mr. Henry Barret * - -	3	0	8
1671.—Paid for a shirte and coate for Edw ^d . Musgrave - - -	1	15	0
Hat shoes and stockings for him - - - -	0	4	3
1676.—Paid the bearers and grave makers for burying Goody Price -	0	1	8

* 1665, 7th October, Henry Barret, Clarke (Lordship), buried, plague (?)





THE CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS FOR 1725.

THE Summary of Receipts and Expenditure show that £1,321 15s. was expended, and only £1,160 13s. 9d. received, but some leaves of the book have been lost. Neither Grub Street nor Whitecross Street Precincts are mentioned—possibly the amounts paid by them were on the missing leaves. If so, the amounts required to balance the expenditure is more than made up.

*THE ACCOUNT OF MONIE RECEIVD. BY RATE & FOR SUPPORT
OF THE POOR & OTHER NECESSARY CONTINGENCES BY
CHURCH WARDEN & OVERSEER OF THE
POOR ANNO DOMINI 1725.*

	£ s. d.
By Mr. Page & Company for burying Mr. Collett in Linen in Tindels burying ground - - - - -	2 10 0
Mr. Pitts for profane Cursing & Swearing - - - - -	0 4 0
By Mr. Morris for Excersissing his trade on y ^e L ^d . Day - - - - -	0 5 0
By Mr. Medcalf Butcher for D ^o . - - - - -	0 10 0
By Mr. Negus Chandler for D ^o . - - - - -	0 5 0
By Mr. Price Barber for D ^o . - - - - -	0 5 0
By Mr. Lewis for Selling liquor w th out a liscense - - - - -	0 11 0
By Mr. Hardy & Mole Overseers of y ^e poor for y ^e Year 1723 being in part of ballance of their account y ^e whole sum being £98 17 0 -	90 11 0
By Mr. John Evans Church Warden for y ^e year 1723 being ballance of his account - - - - -	140 8 6
By y ^e Kings Bounty Monie from Guild Hall - - - - -	48 0 0
By assessment upon y ^e severall inhabitants of Red X Street Percint of 1 ^s . 6 ^d . ith pound - - - - -	328 7 3
By Assessment upon y ^e severall inhabitants of fore Street Percinct of One Shill: ith pound - - - - -	148 6 0
By a Pentionors Goods I sent to y ^e Parish Nurse - - - - -	0 5 0
Of Mr. Brewer for y ^e convex lights - - - - -	0 6 0
	<hr/> £760 13 9
Received by Rents and Gifts - - - - -	300 0 0
By Mortuary Monies - - - - -	100 0 0
	<hr/> £1160 13 9

*SUMMARY OF THE CHURCHWARDENS EXPENDITURE
FOR THE YEAR 1725.*

	£	s.	d.
To the Poor by order of the Committee - - - - -	20	0	0
„ Cassuall poor to the Hospital - - - - -	20	0	0
„ Undertaker for Coffins & Shrouds - - - - -	20	0	0
„ The Vestry Clark - - - - -	70	0	0
„ Passes - - - - -	4	0	0
„ Bearers and grave makeing - - - - -	8	0	0
„ The Warders their Sallery - - - - -	20	0	0
„ Expenses - - - - -	50	0	0
„ Attend y ^e Mayor at y ^e Complaint of y ^e Poor - - - - -	2	10	0
„ Hatts, Lace & Shagg & Makeing of Warders Coats - - - - -	4	5	0
„ The officer for his trouble and Expenses in Collecting the Rents, Gifts & rates and Penns Ink & Paper - - - - -	13	0	0
To other Necessarys Contingenens too Minute & Numerous to name - - - - -	10	0	0
To Servants Sallerys for y ^e Church to Waterson & to y ^e Severall Days ringing, to Point, Ale &c on Ascension day - - - - -	105	0	0
To the City for the rent for the Church yard - - - - -	—		
To Tradesmen for Cloath & bread & binding forth Child ^m . Apprentices Pursuant to y ^e severall Legacys - - - - -	170	0	0
To Tradesmen Necessary Repairs for y ^e Church, To Bread & Wine for y ^e Holy Sacriment & Coles &c. - - - - -	105	0	0
To y ^e Workhouse - - - - -	700	0	0
	<u>£1321</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>0</u>

The following is a selection from the entries under different headings in the Churchwardens' Accounts for the year 1725, from which it will be seen how multifarious were the duties of that office; one hardly wonders that men "fined" instead of undertaking such work and responsibility:—

*"THE ACCOUNT OF MONIES PAID TO CASUALL POOR
FOR THE YEAR 1725."*

	£	s.	d.
To redeem Richard Dawsons Goods he in prison - - - - -	0	10	0
For a Shirt for Charles Gurney - - - - -	0	2	6
To four strangers with a Pass - - - - -	0	1	0
To Discharge Robert Weston from Prison he haveing a family of Children - - - - -	0	14	0
For Necessarys Martha Joy by our L ^d . Mayors order - - - - -	0	4	9
To Mr. Colebrandin Paper Stationer with W ^m . Smallwood Apprentice Pettition & Fees - - - - -	1	0	0
For Stryping and Cleaning a Stranger found dead in the Street - - - - -	0	1	0
To Morgan Crown to pay his rent - - - - -	0	10	0
For a Gown & Coat for Cath. Tyson after Salevation - - - - -	0	5	6
For a shirt for Geo. Smith he in a mesirable condition - - - - -	0	2	6
To Bayon Nelson as a Marraige Portion to w th Mary Midwinter Pentionor—Nelsons Settlement being at St ^e Benet-finck - - - - -	1	1	0

To Rob ^t . Lay to buy him some necessaries at his going to y ^e Blue Coat Hospital	£	s.	d.
To Mr West for fluxing Tho ^s . Gascoyne	1	0	0
Paid to Mr Mabbot & Simson Overseers	2	0	0
Paid over y ^e Kings bounty to severall	50	0	0
To Peter Watsons wife buried	0	19	0
P ^d . to y ^e Lond ⁿ . Workhouse for Ruth Cave	0	1	6
Paid Coach Hire for part y ^e Committee y ^t was appointed to View y ^e Workhouses of St ^t . Giles and St ^t . Martins	0	3	0
Paid y ^e Coroner & beadle for sitting on y ^e body of Judith Haswell & Drink	1	19	4
To A. Walsham for geting a dying man out of y ^e Parish	0	1	0
For a chair to carry Hamilton to and fro to be examined to his settlement several times	0	4	0
For the fees of Bethlem Hospital for John Suvat	3	1	6
To y ^e Marshall Man for calling mee to my L ^d . Mayor	0	1	0
To a person for getting a dieing Man out of y ^e Parish	0	0	6
To M ^{rs} . Hopkins for Lodging Faith Wells 4 Weeks	0	2	0
To Martha Steady & Children to put her in Stock Her Husband being in Ludgate	0	6	6
To Tho ^s . Wager a sick man y ^t lay att my door	0	1	0
To Eliz. Harris for a pair of Shoos	0	1	6
For a letter from y ^e Country to send relief to John Grant	0	0	3
To a Stranger with 2 small Children Lay all night at my door	0	2	0
The following are the names of those Poor I Paid rent for y ^t was removed out of Sugar loaf Court when y ^e Workhouse began— (Here follows a list of 16 persons—the amount paid amounting to £7 17s. 6d. for six months.)			

“THE ACCOUNT OF MONIES EXPENDED UPON BUSINESS
AND OTHER NECESSARIES FOR Y^E YEAR 1725.”

(There are many amounts of 1/- each for summonses before the Lord Mayor at the complaint of divers poor persons.)

To a poor man to carry y ^e rate to y ^e Alderman to be signed	£	s.	d.
For Penns, Ink & Paper	0	6	8
To Mr Cooper & Baglie bringing Mr Calvert's Engine to a fire y ^t happened in w ^e X Street—gave by Mr Deputys order	0	3	6
For an act of Parliament relating to y ^e poor	0	5	0
For counccills fees & expenses upon Witness upon an appeal between Bishopsgate & us on account of Welch and family	0	0	6
In waiting at y ^e Coffee Houses w ⁿ y ^e Church Warden was sworn	0	15	0
Spent at y ^e Tavern same day	0	3	4
Upon y ^e Sides-Men on Collecting y ^e money for assencoion Dinner	0	7	9
Upon y ^e Antients & other inhabitants at Dinner on Assension Day	0	5	4
Upon y ^e officers att Wallbrook att Receiving Dickensons Gift	6	14	11
Upon some of y ^e Antients at Correcting y ^e Greenbook	0	6	9
Upon Officers & others at Disposing of Gifts	0	7	6
Upon Comm ^{tee} for Generall Inspection	1	9	9
Upon self and partner w ^h others at Court Barron	0	7	0
Upon some of y ^e Antients & Horse hire to Receive a years rent at Dagenham	0	8	2
	0	8	6

	£	s.	d.
Att y ^e Coffee House in Waiting to deliver our presentment - -	0	1	2
For a summons at y ^e complaint of Rose Hall - - -	0	1	0
For hearing before me L ^d . Mayor - - -	0	1	0
To M ^r . Wood, Beedle as his fee for proceeding - - -	0	1	0
For Penns Ink and Paper - - -	0	3	6
To M ^r . Peake for 100 poor notes - - -	0	1	0
To Major Adamsally—interest due to him & part of y ^e principall by an order from y ^e Alderman - - -	149	5	10
To M ^r . Peake for 100 poor notes - - -	0	1	0
To M ^r . Wood, Beedle as his fee for y ^e poor rate being sum ^d . by Com- mand of y ^e Alderman - - -	0	10	0
To M ^r . Tanner for his fee when y ^e Sessions was held for y ^e Hegways - - -	1	1	0
For Wine & Cake for y ^e justices - - -	0	2	2
For 2 y ^{ds} . of Shagg for y ^e Wardors Coats - - -	0	12	6
To M ^r . Bird Massinger for bringing of order to receive The Kings money from y ^e Chamberlain - - -	0	2	6
For Filling & Serveing y ^e Coals for y ^e poor - - -	0	8	0
For a Summons of y ^e complaint of Frances Lovegrove, a Stranger, w th 5 Children and gave y ^t to go out of y ^e Parish - - -	0	3	6
Spent upon y ^e Committee of y ^e Hiwayays at severall times - - -	0	19	6
To M ^r . Ayres for fire and candles at y ^e Quest House - - -	0	7	6
Spent w th a constable on business - - -	0	2	4
To S ^r . John Williams man when I swore to y ^e Warrant of Distress - -	0	1	0
Paid half part to a fire y ^t happened in buill row - - -	1	5	0

The preceding items finish under a separate heading with the following entries :—

To M ^r . Crabtree Vestry Clark his Bill - - -	47	0	0
„ „ „ in a second Bill - - -	9	17	2
Spent w th a Constable on business - - -	0	3	6
For my trouble & Expense in Collecting y ^e severall rates - - -	6	0	0
For my books & keeping my accounts & expenses in binding out Sixteen poor Children apprentice &c. - - -	2	0	0
For my trouble and Expense in gathering & Collecting y ^e Rents, Gifts, & Donations & other profitts belonging to y ^e Parish - - -	5	0	0
Paid & expended w th M ^r . Howard, Constable & portors at severall times on y ^e Distresse for y ^e poor rate - - -	2	12	9

The whole of the expenses for the year under this head was
£232 16s. 6d.

“AN ACCOUNT OF MONIES PAID FOR PASSES AND
CERTIFICATES.”

	£	s.	d.
James Allen, Wife & 2 Children to S ^t . Georges, Southwark - -	0	3	6
Richard Lodgely Wife and 5 Children to Alphage for y ^e chair - -	0	3	6
Samuel Dodson alias Dumb Sam: to S ^t . Olive's Silver Street - -	0	3	6
For burying a Stranger - - -	0	2	4

Many similar entries occur in this account.

AN ACCOUNT OF MONY PAID FOR RENT FOR YE POOR
& FOR SERVANTS WAGES.—Midsummer Quarter.

(Here follows a list of names of persons who have lodged a poor person, the amounts paid varying from 6/6 to 10/- for the quarter.)

	£	s.	d.
Three men (servants) - - - - - each	2	10	0
To ye Searchers their Salery - - - - -	0	5	0

AN ACCOUNT OF MONEYS PAID TO SEVERALL TRADESMEN
FOR THE YEAR.

	£	s.	d.
To Mr Bruges, Printer for 1500 Bills - - - - -	0	15	0
To ye Hand in Hand office for Insuring ye Workhouse, Moor Lane -	8	13	8
To Mr Cole for work done to ye Bells Wheels - - - - -	4	16	0
To Mr Howard for 2 Prayer Books - - - - -	1	11	0

AN ACCOUNT OF MONIES PAID TO SEVERALL THAT HAVE
OFFICE'S IN YE CHURCH & THEIR SALLERY'S AND OTHER
NECESSARYS CONTINGENCES.

	£	s.	d.
Paid for 22 groce of Points* on Ascension Day for ye Boyes - -	2	5	0
Paid for a barrell of Ale for ye Boyes - - - - -	1	10	0
Paid Mr Bradley for looking after Clock and Chimes - - - -	4	0	0
Paid Mr Green Organist a years Sallery - - - - -	10	0	0
Paid for velvett & mending ye pall - - - - -	0	10	6
Paid for cleaning ye Sarsenett for ye Palls - - - - -	0	7	6
Paid for a pad lock to secure of Parish Writings - - - - -	0	1	6
Paid for 2 bundels of w th wands for ye boyes - - - - -	0	5	0
Paid for a leg of mutton for ye ringers on Ascension day - -	0	2	1
Paid to ye Chamber a years rent for ye Church yard &c. - -	17	10	0
Paid to Mrs Ayres Sextoness a years sallery - - - - -	4	10	0
A Watchman for attending my door 33 weeks for ye security of ye Church Plate. [The paper has failed here.] - - - - -	—		
Paid for Cutting out of Shirts and Smocks for ye poor - - - -	0	4	2
Paid to Carmen Portors for Carrying & filling one hundred ninety & three Sacks of Coals to ye poor peoples Houses over ye severall parts of ye Parish - - - - -	3	11	0
Paid for Sweeping ye Church Yard and Carrying away ye filth - -	0	3	0
Paid ye men to drink - - - - -	0	1	0

* "Points," were metal tags used to fasten clothes. These were given to the children at certain spots in the perambulation of the parish, for the purpose of fixing the particular spot upon their memory.



THE INVENTORY, 1649-50.

Inprimis.—2 bibles of the largest volume.

Item.—one psalme Book.

- „ one common prayer booke.
- „ one Booke called Bishop Jewell's Workes.
- „ one Booke of all the Statutes.
- „ 3 Statute Bookes of Paper.
- „ 4 Register Books of Vellum.
- „ 2 Communion cupps of silver, parcell guilt. Waight (No weight given.)
- „ one large silver dish for the Comunion Bread.
- „ 2 silver pattins for the Comunion Bread.
- „ 6 gallon pottes, 2 pottle potts, and one quart pott of pewter.
- „ one knife for the Communion Bread.
- „ one Comunion tablecloth and one napkin.
- „ one greene carpet of cloth.
- „ one greene cushion of cloth for the pulpit.
- „ one other cushion of crimson velvet for the pulpit cloth with tassels of Gould and silver.
- „ one Buckrum cover for the same.
- „ one pulpit cloth imbroathered with gold and silver.
- „ 2 houre glasses and one halfe houre glasse.
- „ one large branch with 16 nossells.
- „ one curtin for one of the upper windowes.
- „ 2 new hearsecloths, one larger, one smaller.
- „ one chest to keepe bonds in.
- „ 4 dosson and six buckets.
- „ 3 fireaxes.
- „ 2 great fireaxes with chaines thereunto belonging.
- „ 4 ropes belonging to the fire hookes.
- „ 4 shovells belonging to the fire hookes.
- „ 6 pickaxes.
- „ one croe of iron.
- „ one new long ladder.
- „ one other new ladder.
- „ one other ladder contayning 40 rounds.
- „ one shorter ladder very ould.
- „ one catheising pew, a wheelbarrow and a paille.
- „ 10 peeces of elme timber for the bell stockes.
- „ 2 bell clappers.
- „ one fire shovell, tongs, bellows, creepers and chamber pot.
- „ one pickaxe, one spade, and one shovell for the grave maker.
- „ one pickaxe, one spade and one shovell for Stowells use.
- „ one flat monybox.
- „ 5 wooden dishes
- „ 14 wooden candlesticks.
- „ 2 flat latten candlesticks.
- „ one shovell for the sexton's use.
- „ 2 tresalls and 16 formes.
- „ one great ould stone font lined with lead.
- „ in the belfry, 6 bigger and lesser bells, and one Saint's bell.



VARIOUS EXTRACTS

TAKEN FROM THE

MINUTE BOOKS OF THE VESTRY, &c.

THE Extracts are given as illustrative of the state of Society, of the difficulties of the Vestry, and of modes of transacting business. They all have a certain interest, but, with the exception of those relating to the Parish Fire Engine, Lecturers, and Refreshments, they are of such a kind as to defy proper classification.

Down to 1618 the extracts are from Sworder's Accounts, the rest from the Minute Book of the General and Freedom Vestries.

In these early times, and for many years after, the Deputy of the Ward seems to have had much more to do with Parish matters *as* Deputy than in recent times; we constantly find "The Deputy" being referred or appealed to on various matters, but even "Deputies" were careless and sometimes obstinate as some of the following extracts from the accounts and minutes would seem to show:—

1608.—For as much as Mr. Deputie's Keyes of Chest are not here by reason of his absence the sum of £5 19s. 4d. is delivered to Mr. R. Churchwarden.

1610.—The Churchwardens have in their hands beside the money in the Chest, the sum of £13 19s., whereof £5 is delivered to Mr. Deputy Harvist by consent, so remaineth in the Churchwardens hand till the Chest Keyes be found £8 19s.

1612.—That by the consent of the Vestry, there was the summe of £50 taken out of this Sworder's money and delyvered to the Churchwardens for the next year to be employed in the building of a gallery in the Church.

1613.—There was taken out £7 3s. 4d. paid to Mr. Rochdall towards the re-building of the newe gallery in the Church.

1617.—"This £12 4s. was laid out in repairing the Church."

1618.—"Which £8 5s. 8d. was spent in repairing of the Church."

Sept., 1662.—"That the parties whose names are underwritten do repair to the ordinary to acquaint him concerning the money that Mr. Cliffe (the late senior Churchwarden) delayeth in his hands which should have been paid into the Parish the last audit-day."

March, 1672.—All writings in the Parish Chest and all writings in Mr. Swinnertons hand to be compared with the Registers Mr. S. has made and when found correct all to be locked up in the Chest in the Quest House, and the four Churchwardens to keep each of them a key.

June, 1672.—A General Vestry to be held on the 21st to receive 5 or 6 deeds and also Keys of the Chest which are in the hands of Mr. John Cliffe, Deputy.

June 22, 1672.—“A petition to be made ready against Tuesday next to the Lord Mayor and Council of Aldermen concerning all these leases, deeds and writings and keys which are in the hands of Mr. John Cliffe, deputy, and that whatsoever money is expended or laid out about or concerning the said petition shall be allowed the Churchwardens in their accounts.”

Mar. 26, 1673.—That the Churchwardens do pay unto Mr. Edward Dearmer the sum of £5 he having laid out concerning the recovering of severall writings which were in the hands of Mr. John Cliffe, Deputy, and for his time which he hath spent concerning the said recovering of these writings.

The Deputy seems inclined to give all the trouble he can, for in July in the same year an order is made :—

“That Four be appointed to meet with Mr. John Cliffe, Deputy, on Thursdays next about 10 of the Clocke in the forenoon to demand three deedes that is to say Temple Barr, the Cooks Company, and Mr. Denews and also one old grand book with some other books, and to make their report to the next Vestry of the same.”

The Parish Fire Engine was such a necessary institution, and caused the Vestry so much trouble, that no apology is needed for giving the following extracts respecting it.

In the Inventories previous to 1655, the only implements for quenching fire are four dozen and six “bucketts”; for checking, “fireaxes”; and for tearing down the light wooden buildings, “fire hookes.” In that of 1655, appears:—“*Item.* One Engine for the Quenching of Fire.”

During this year the Engine had been in use in Fleet Street and Threadneedle Street, for there was—

	£	s.	d.
Expended upon the men that went forth with the Engine (to these)	-	0	6 6
Given to the men that drew the Engine out and in	-	0	1 6
Paid to Abell Hodges for working the Engine at both fires	-	0	5 0
Given to the City Founder for mending and cleansing the Engine-	-	0	12 0
For fetching water to try the Engine, and helping it in and out several times	-	0	8 6
To them that tried the Engine	-	0	1 0
Hammer to use about the Engine	-	0	1 0

In 1660, it was ordered “that an Engine house be built, fronting next the Street and situate next the great gate that goes out of Redcross Streete into the lower Churchyard.”

The accounts report:—

	£	s.	d.
Bricklayer for building the Engine House - - - - -	3	0	0
Do. the Ladder House - - - - -	2	4	9
Carpenter, Timber, and work done about where the Engine standeth -	3	13	2
Carpenter, for a place to hang the Ladders on - - - - -	5	16	9
1661.—To those who went to the fire in Noble Street - - - - -	2	7	6
1665.—For painting and mending 48 buckets that were carried to the fire in Cheapside, at 15 <i>d.</i> per piece - - - - -	3	1	0

The Engine was used at the Great Fire, and got out of repair, for we find:—

In Sept., 1666, the Vestry order “that the Engine be forthwith mended and kept in good repair, and that a rate be made for mending the Engine and bucketts and hopes.”

Paid the Sexton for work done in the “fire time,” clearing the Churchyard and other charges £1; Mr. Hodges for mending the Engine traces, and for shovells and pails used at the time of fire £2.

After the Great Fire, sites were evidently getting more valuable in this quarter, for we find in:—

1667.—That the Engine House, fronting next the Streete and situated next the Great gate that goes out of Redcross St^e into the Lower Churchyard, be let for £10 fine and £6 yearly rent.

A new Engine House was built at the cost of about £15, but its site cannot be determined, probably near the tower of the Church where a new one was built in 1775.

1682.—The Engine House to be forthwith rebuilt to hold *both* Engines, the Freedom to allow 2 parts and the Lordship to allow 1 part, so that they may be always in readiness for the quenching of fire in any part of the Parish.

1700.—That the present Churchwardens do forthwith prepare a new “tubbe” for the Engine of good English oak, and that they be allowed fifty shillings for the same, and pay the man y^t usually looks after the said Engine what they shall judge reasonable.

1703.—To repair and amend “Ingon.”

1715.—That the person who brought the Engine to the late fire in Barbican be forthwith paid as the Act directs.

1742.—Ordered “to repair the large and small Fire Engines” to cost £6 10*s.*

1749.—Paid £3 3*s.* for repairing Engine, and £3 for a new leather pipe of forty foot long; 30*s.* to be paid yearly for keeping the Engine in repair.

The Churchwardens to pay to the Keeper or Keepers of every other Engine that attended and was in compleat order at the late fire at the corner of Beech Lane in Redcross St^e (beside the first three that have an allowance by Act of Parliament), the sum of 10*s.* each to be signified by M^r. Deputy Wallington to the said Churchwarden.

1750.—A Committee is ordered to “enquire into the state of St. Giles Engines,” and no money to be paid to the Contractor but he is to attend at next meeting and report.

1755.—A new Fire Engine to be got from Rugg and Newsam.

1759.—Ordered that the boards be placed in proper places to denote the situation of the Fire Plugs.

1761.—Ordered that in pursuance of Mr. Banners proposal there be provided seven fire cocks, pipes, and cases, and that they be fixed at such places as the said Committee shall think proper, and the Churchwarden is to pay the charges thereof.

5 April, 1775.—That the Churchwardens for the time being do pay the person or persons who shall bring the first fire ladder to a fire which may happen within the parish and return the same ladder to the place of its reception the following sum or sums of money as a reward :—7s. 6d. for the longest ladder, 5s. for the middle ladder, and 2s. 6d. for the smallest ladder. And it is ordered that there be provided three keys for each of the Padlocks belonging to the said ladders, and that one of these keys be kept at the Quest House, another of them at the Watch House, and the other at the Engineer's House.

17 April, 1775.—That an Engine House be erected in the Churchyard at the west end of the Tower.

30 May, 1775.—That the large Engine be repaired and new painted, and a stand cock made for the small Engine.

That the Engineer be allowed 10s. for attending at the late fire in Grub Street.

In 1865, we find that the Parish received £9 for their two Engines.

Oct. 1, 1673.—That from this day forward whensoever there is occasion for reparation of the Church for the employing of any workmen, that is to say Carpenter, Bricklayer Plaisterer, Glazier or any other trade whatsoever, that thenne the Upper Chwⁿ in the Freedom doe give notice to the Upper Chwⁿ in the Lordship whereby to agree among themselves concerning the employing of any such workmen, and the workmen to be chosen by the general consent of the Freedom and Lordship, not altering or displacing those that are now in employment.

Dec., 1711.—Complaint being made to this Vestry that Mr. Brookes the Minister of St. Alphage within Cripplegate is endeavouring to get part of this parish laid to his, it is ordered, "That the Committee appointed at last Vestry to attend the Coⁿ for building new churches be now a Committee also to draw up reasons forthwith and deliver to the said Com^s^{rs} why no part of this parish ought to be laid to St. Alphage parish aforesaid."

1711.—Ordered, "That the Vestry accept of Mr. Andrew Murray the Merchant, the sum of £56 8s. 6d. in full satisfaction for the Parish interest in or to the vessell called the 'Merry Frigate.'"

May, 1714.—The Deputy and Common Councilmen are desired to acquaint the Alderman of the Ward that the Vestry on behalf of themselves and the said Parish and Ward humbly request his worship's intercession with the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen that no lincise be granted to any person (brewing of ale or beer) to sell the same or either of them by retail nor to any stranger that should come into the said Ward to sell any ale or beer until such stranger have given bond with sufficient security to indemnify the Parish and Ward from any charge that may accrue thereto from them or their families.

1714.—Ordered, "That Mr. R. H. having acted contrary to his duty as a Vestryman in several cases and particularly in the case of the said men H. & D. [two late overseers], by endeavouring to stifle their frauds in the execution of their said offices, and advising them to agree among themselves and not let the Vestry know anything of the matter, be expelled from being any longer a Vestryman."

1714.—Agreed to Mr. Henry Lowth's project to buy tickets in the present Lottery of the Government pursuant to the plan thereof by him now produced and in his custody as Treasurer by the consent of the whole Vestry.

At this time the Vestry had great difficulties in meeting expenses (*see* page 168).

A bill to Mr. L. of over £78 for cloth for the use of the poor is incurred in 1710 and 1711, and £48 of it is paid on 29th April, 1720, by the Committee appointed in 1716. This probably quickened his anxiety to try to induce the Vestry to take part in what was possibly the South Sea scheme, or some other proposal of the Government to pay off the National Debt. Wiser counsels seem to have prevailed, as the project was not confirmed at the next Vestry.

June, 1715.—Ordered, "That a General Vestry be held the first week in next August and thence forth, the first week in every month monthly, of which notice to be given *in the Church* the Sunday before in each month successively and summons is to be issued accordingly." [Never put in practice.]

1716.—Ordered, "That notice be given to the Company of Barber Surgeons to turn their watercourse which now runs into the Churchyard some other way."

1716.—There is a Vestry minute to the effect that, "Owing to the increase of the Poor of the Parish through the late long war and deadness of trade the usual assessments were not sufficient to make due provision for them, and 'the Churchwardens have been obliged to borrow money; and to repay these loans by assessment is too great a burden on the Parish.'"

It was then ordered that, "All monies which become payable to this [Freedom] part of the Parish for burials for the use of palls, ringing any passage bell and knell commonly called Mortuary monies, any fine or fines for parish offices from and after the 1st of March shall be received by a Committee of two [persons specified] to be applied towards payment of these debts—first the interest and then the principal."

Up to May, 1724, there was received from these sources the sum of £1,303 8s. 0³/₄d., and expended £1,273 14s. 9d. in liquidating the Freedom's debt. The balance was left in the hands of the Deputy.

1718.—Ordered, "That Mr. Thomas Loveday having produced a Convicts Certificate, be excused serving the office of Overseer."

1719.—Mr. E. B. and Mr. J. S. (not being general Vestrymen) intruding themselves into this Vestry and being acquainted they had no right to be there as Vestrymen, and being desired to withdraw and yet continuing here and disturbing the Vestrymen in their business which they now mett to do, It is ordered, "that the said B. and S. be prosecuted at law for such their disturbing the said Vestry as is afore mentioned."

A week after. "A Committee" is appointed "to inquire what right B. and S. had to sit as Vestrymen in the last General Vestry and if it shall appear they had no right so to do then to advise with Council what course is proper to be taken with them for their so doing."

1720.—Ordered, "That the Upper Churchwarden doe pay £3 to St. Bartholomew Hospital to enable them to send Hannah Hancock to the Bath [*i.e.*, to Bath]; together with the Beadle's fees.

1727.—The Collectors of the Window Tax in 1720 having failed to pay it all in to the Exchequer an action was raised against the Parish. It was ordered, "That all fines were to be applied to pay the difficiency and costs."

1729.—Ordered, "That £20 out of the Ward monies be paid towards the expense of a ward pump to be erected and set up where the late Conduit stood in Fore Street."

1729.—Ordered, "That the ground to let on building lease be advertised in some one of the 'Daily Newspapers.'"

The ground did not let, as later in the same year we find it ordered:—

"That it be advertised again in some one or two of the Public Daily Newspapers."

Oct. 7, 1733.—Ordered, "That the Deputy and Common Councilmen or any four of them with one Churchwarden be a Committee to assist the Churchwardens in the placing the several inhabitants of this Parish in the pews of the Church in such manner as they shall think fitt. Public notice to be given in Church of the time of their meeting for that purpose."

1734.—Ordered, "That William Hoare upon payment of seven pounds and producing his certificate of having convicted a felon or purchased such certificate be admitted a vestryman of this parish."

April 11, 1737.—"That the Communion plate be lodged from time to time with Mr. Alcock [house at east end of the Church] and that he be paid 20s. a year for the same, and *that he do give security*."

On the next meeting of the Vestry the last part of preceding order was not confirmed. Mr. Alcock refused to *give security*.

Jan. 18, 1739.—"That the great parish chest be repaired and that the Communion plate be lodged and deposited there from time to time under the charge of the Sexton and that his room be so secured for that purpose as the Churchwardens shall see necessary."

Ordered, "That the Tenants insure and keep insured the 'Houses by the Church' in one of the Public Offices for insuring from loss by fire."

1750.—"That in future the Sexton carry the Service Books into the Vestry room so soon as prayers are over and that if any of the said Books shall be lost by his neglect that he shall make good such loss."

1750.—"That the Beadles be continued at £10 per annum each. One to take Redcross and Whitecross Streets, the other Fore Street and Grub Street, and if one be out of the way the other to assist."

"That such Beadle as shall go with a pass shall have for himself one shilling and if it be so far that he be obliged to lye out for every night he shall so lye out he shall have one shilling over and above his expenses."

"That such of the said Beadles who shall remove any person to another parish in friendship with us shall have for himself 6d. (In March, 1751, 1s. was allowed.)"

"That for every person carried to the Locke he shall have one shilling. That for every person carried to St. Bartholomews sixpence."

"That no more than one shilling be given to the Sister and sixpence to the Nurse. That in future the Beadles shall be clothed but once in two years to begin Christmas 1751."

1751.—It being represented to this Vestry that Mr. Thomas Tite had fined for the office of foreman of the Inquest and was therefore admitted a Vestryman of this Parish as having before that time fined for or served all offices in the Parish of St. Luke in the Co. of Middlesex and where he now dwells and resides this Vestry thereupon took the same into consideration and do resolve that in regard the said Mr. Tite is not resident

in this Parish he is not entitled to the privilege of a Vestryman thereof and do order that the fine he paid on his admission be repaid him.

1756.—Ordered, “That the shed in which the Coals for the Poor are kept be repaired, but only in such manner as will just serve to keep the coals from being carried away by the populace.”

1757.—“That any of the Inhabitants of this Parish who desire it may be at liberty to repair the kneeling places in their pews at their own expense.”

1758.—Ordered, “That a new ‘Umbrella’ be bought for the use of the Church and the expense thereof allowed the Churchwardens in their accounts.”

1759.—Ordered, “That a petition be sent to the Committee of the City Lands praying that ‘Crowther’s’ well be made open with steps round for access so that passengers may see to the bottom.”

1762.—Ordered, “That the late Churchwardens pay Mr. Ayscough the Clerke £7 7s. to buy a Clerke’s gown to wear in his desk on Sundays and Holy days.

1763.—The Vestry take into consideration the great number of “Hoggs” that are kept in or stray into the parish to the great annoyance of the public. It is ordered, “That a warrant be obtained from my Lord Mayor for putting the law in execution for the seizing and selling such Hoggs for the use of the Poor, and that in the meantime Mr. Stagg do cause an advertisement to be inserted in the *Daily Advertiser* that all such hogs will be seized and sold pursuant to such Act of Parliament.”

1764.—Ordered, “That two doors are to be hung up at the end of the middle aisle as to turn back against the Churchwardens and the Sidesmens pews and to be constantly kept shut unless in time of Divine Service.”

The following five entries illustrate the irreverent behaviour of many of the people at this period:—

1764.—That all the bearers except C. do attend by rotation two at a time in the Church in order to keep the same quiet on all Sundays during service time and upon failure thereof that the Churchwardens do turn them out of their said places of bearers and employ other persons therein who shall agree to perform such duty.

1765.—Ordered, “That the Churchwarden do every Sunday cause two of the bearers or such persons as they shall think fitt to attend in the Church in the forenoon and afternoon during the time of Divine Service, to *prevent noises and disturbances usually made by boys and beggars* and that he do pay such persons attending one shilling each for every day’s attendance.”

1769.—Ordered, “That Iron Spikes be placed on the Doors opening to the Middle aisle of the Church, to *prevent Boys from climbing over the same*, and the Spikes to be painted and gilt.”

These doors with Iron Spikes at top were in the same position as here described so lately as 1860.

1772.—Ordered, “That instead of two of the bearers one proper person be appointed by the Churchwardens every Sunday morning during service time to *keep the same quiet*.”

Neither the “bearers” nor the one “proper person” seem to have done their work properly, so the following order is made:—

“That four poor men in the workhouse be ordered to sweep the ways to the Church every Sunday morning and that they do attend in the Church every Sunday during service time in order to *keep the same quiet*.”

1770.—Ordered, “That Five guineas reward be paid to the watchman or watchmen who shall apprehend and take a housebreaker for an offence committed within this parish.”

1782.—Ordered, “That the late Churchwardens do forthwith pay to the Deputy the sum of £115, to be by him paid and applied (together with the *balance* of monies collected on the Riot Tax) towards making up the quota set upon the Ward by the Quarter Sessions for making good the damages occasioned by the Riots in the City in the year 1780” [The Gordon Riots].

The following are extracts from the Parish Records concerning “Ministers” and “Lecturers.”

April, 1673.—Ordered “That 10s. weekly be allowed to Mr. Edward Houghton late Curate of this Parish towards the relief and maintenance of the said Edward Houghton and continue until further orders.”

July, 1673.—Ordered “That the sum of Twenty shillings be paid to Mr. Mainwaring the Reader towards the maintaining of himself and family and that Mr. Howton the late Reader be allowed but 8s. (till further orders).”

July 12, 1674.—Ordered “That 7s. 6d. weekly be paid to Mr. Houghton so long as it shall please God he doth remain in his miserable condition.” [Houghton was buried 27th July.]

May, 1676.—Ordered “That if Mr. Mainwaring shall misbehave himself by giving Mr. Smythies ill language or otherwise it shall be lawful and it is desired by the Gentlemen of the Vestry that Mr. Smythies provide another to read the Prayers and perform the offices of the Church in his room at Midsummer next and in like manner afterwards it shall be in Mr. Smythies his power to continue him or change him upon his good behaviour.”

Oct., 1714.—Ordered “That proper hoods to read prayers be forthwith provided for the Vicar and his several Curates at the charge of the Parish.”

Oct., 1722.—Ordered “That the Parish Churchwardens are desired to pay Mr. Hawkins the Curate Eight Shillings weekly for the support of himself and his wife, they being both very antient and in a very low condition.”

As before stated, the Parish had the right of appointing the “Lecturer,” and, in consequence, the candidates for the position never occupied a very dignified position.

In June, 1668, the Lectureship was vacant, and it was “Ordered that Mr. Wellbanke make a trial of his abilities for the afternoon Lectureship for one quarter of a year.”

In Oct., 1668, it was “Ordered that Mr. Wellbanke make further trial for 3 months,” and a similar entry occurs in Jan., 1669.

In Dec., 1743, the Lectureship is “declared vacant,” and there are eight candidates for the position. It is ordered “That each do preach a sermon—the numbers then to be reduced to 4 and then voted upon.”

In Feb., 1744, the Vestry declare themselves to be the real electors of the Lecturer, but they make an order that “All who paid Poor rates are

to be admitted as electors," and they further say that the Vestry shall afterwards ratify the election, adding "That it may be of advantage in the voluntary contributions of the inhabitants to such Lecturer as shall be chosen."

The Poll was taken at the Quest House, on Tuesday, 6th March, from eight o'clock in the morning till seven in the evening.

The following entries in the Vestry Minute Books concerning "Refreshments" for the "Gentlemen of the Vestry," may be found interesting.

It must, however, be understood that the Churchwardens and Overseers were only allowed their expenses, the usual dinners in the Parish were in recognition of their services. It may be also noted that when a usual dinner is not allowed, distress in the Parish was unusually extensive.

1652.—For the perambulation dinner by consent £2. Spent over and above at the said dinner by consent in regard there was no cakes and ale it being an exceedingly wet day 15s.

1679.—Ordered, "That for the future there be no cakes and ale eaten or drunk on perambulation days, upon the parish account, although it hath been usual or customary formerly."

1704.—Ordered, "That the present Churchwardens doe provide a dinner on Holy Thursday, and that the charge thereof be allowed them in their accounts."

1704.—Ordered, "That there be a dinner on Allhallows day as hath been accustomed."

1708.—Ordered, "That the Allhallows day dinner is not to cost more than £5."

1711.—Ordered, "That the Allhallows day dinner is not to cost more than £6."

1712.—A similar entry, but "Dinner not to cost more than 40/-."

1713.—Ordered, "That the Holy Thursday dinner do not exceed £10."

1714.—Ordered, "That a dinner shall not be provided on Holy Thursday as formerly."

1714.—Ordered, "That there be a dinner on Allhallows day as usual but the charge thereof is to be borne by the persons that shall be present thereat and not at the charge of the Parish."

1715.—Ordered, "That no person be admitted to dine with the Ancients to morrow at the Castle Tavern who refuses half-a-crown for his dinner."

1716.—"Ordered, "That there be a dinner on Ascencion day at the Castle Tavern (but not at the charge of the Parish) and that every person coming to the said dinner shall pay half-a-crown as was done last year."

1718.—A dinner at the Crown Tavern on Ascencion day for the Vestrymen that will pay 2s. 6d. each towards it. The upper Churchwarden to expend £3 and no more on such dinner.

1728.—There be an Ascencion day dinner as usual. £5 and no more to defray the charge thereof. It is the opinion and ordered by the Vestry, "That the overseers of the Poor and Sidesmen do pay their half-crowns towards the said dinner."

1739.—Ordered, “That the procession and feast on Ascension day be laid aside till the year 1741 and that the whole charge of All Saints day shall not exceed the sum of 40/- and that the charge of the day on which the Churchwardens are sworn in shall not exceed the said sum of 40/-.”

1741.—Ordered, “That there be no Ascension dinner this year and that there be no perambulation till the year 1744.”

1746.—Ordered, “That there be an Ascension day dinner and that £10 be allowed and no more on any pretence whatever or other charge attending the procession in any way whatever.”

Mar. 29, 1763.—Ordered “That the Vestry taking into consideration the necessity of some of the ancients of this Parish to accompany the Churchwardens and Sidesmen in the collection of Briefs from House to House and the collection upon the King’s letter and that it is unreasonable such persons should not have some refreshment after making such collection and more unreasonable they should bear the expense of same by their own monies it is ordered that in all times to come when such collection shall be made that the Churchwardens do pay the expense thereof not exceeding 30/- at any one collection.”

Apr. 20, 1767.—Ordered, “That in time to come there shall be
 allowed for expenses at the swearing in dinner . . . 4 guineas only.
 For the collecting all Briefs 2 “ “
 The giving away of Coales 2 “ “
 All Saints day 10 “ “
 Easter Monday 3 “ “

This order to be inserted in the front of every Churchwardens Book.”

1774.—Ordered, “That the Churchwardens for the time being do in future on All Saints day and other dinners at the Parish expense call for the reckoning at 6 o’clock in the evening that so the expense of such dinner may not amount to more than the sum allowed by the Vestry for such purpose.”

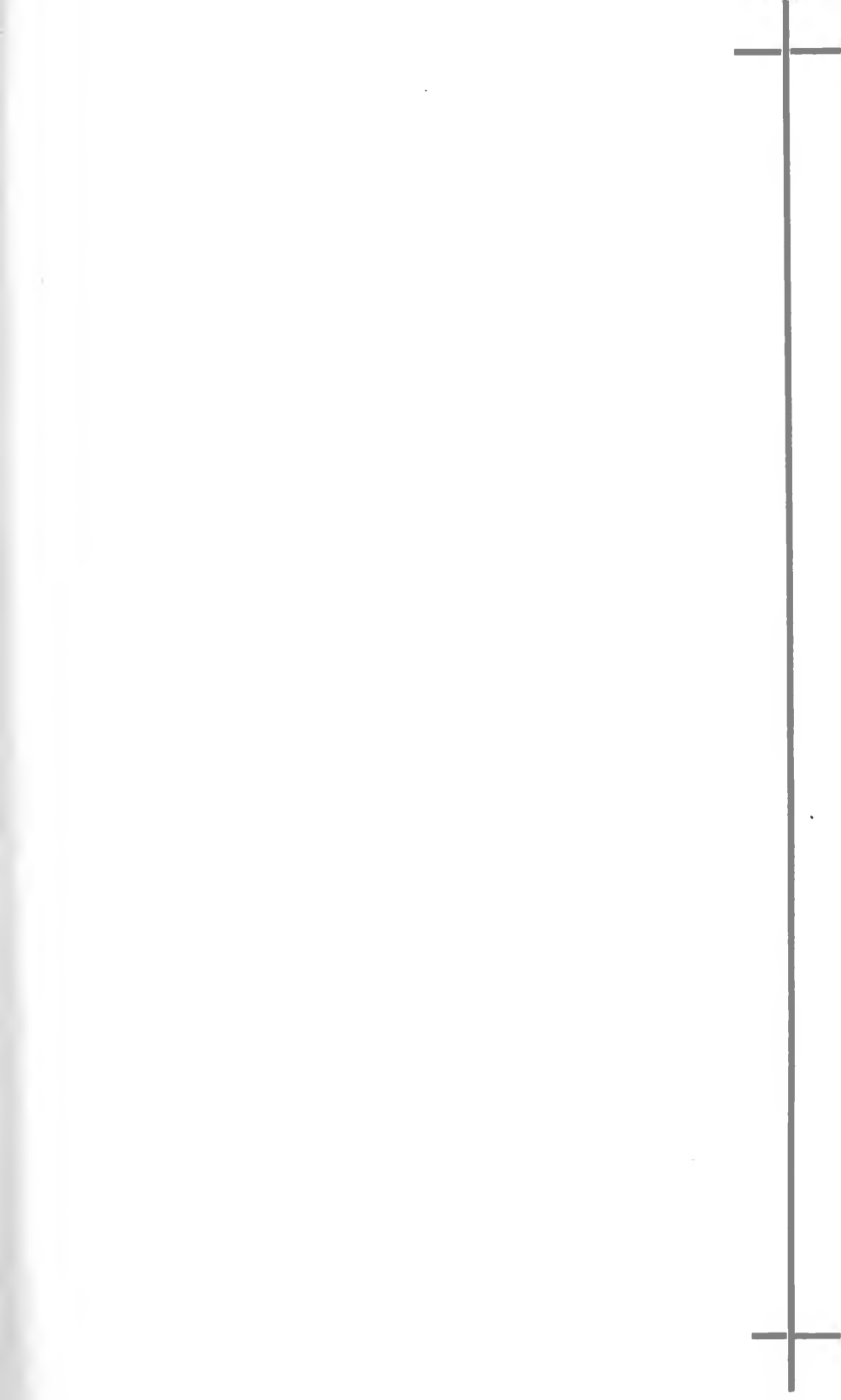
This order was made in consequence of £8 16s. 6d. having been incurred by the late Churchwarden beyond the allowance, and £7 7s. by his predecessor. The Churchwardens again transgress for in—

1780.—It is ordered, “That £15 14s. 9d. expended over and above the allowance for Dinners is to be repaid the Churchwardens and six guineas allowed for a dinner at the swearing in of the Churchwardens and Sidesmen.

1795.—Ordered, “That at the making of the poor rate no gentlemen be invited to sit down to dinner who do not attend to the business.”

1795.—Ordered, “That at the Ascension day Dinner £25 be allowed to be spent.”







THE VESTRY AND OFFICERS OF THE CHURCH.

UP to 1640, and just before the outbreak of the Civil War, the Vestry had been "tyme out of memory" a "Select" one—that is, self-elected—but at this time of general upheaval it was made open, and continued so until the year 1659. The following (the first entry in the earliest Minute Book in the possession of the Parish) tells its own tale:—

Memorandum.—Whereas formerly there was a Vestry held in this parish of St. Giles without Cripplegate, as occasion required consisting only of the Vicar, Churchwardens, and all that had passed the place and office of Churchwardenshipp, which said Vestry had the choice of Churchwardens, Overseers of the Poore, Surveyors for the Highwayes, Clerke and Sexton as also for the letting of leases and severall other buisnes of concernment for the goode of the Parish, But because of some discontented Parties in these late troubles, Inhabitants of this Parish who were enemies to the ancient government of the same, caused the Vestry to be dismist and so made choyce of the above said officers by the generality of the Inhabitants of this Parish, they being so numerous there could be no buisnes conveniently debated in that multitude, although it might much produce to the losse and damage of the Parish, The inconveniences thereof being seriously considered by divers of the Parish it was moved on Monday in Easter week being the third day of April 1659 at a generall Meeting of the whole parish in oure Church to settle a Vestry again, Being put to the question it was clearly carried by hands for the settlement thereof in that auncient way as was used in the year 1640 and tyme out of memory before.

On April 6th the first Vestry under the new settlement was held, and resolutions adopted as to "military trayning in the Churchyard, and shutting the back doores leading into it" (full particulars are given elsewhere).

In 1671, for some cause not apparent, unless the previous order of 1659 had been allowed to fall into desuetude—or perhaps from the altered and improved character of the population after the fire of 1666, the Vestry cause the following resolution to be entered on the minutes:—

That the Vestry of the Parish of St. Giles without Cripplegate continue a customary Vestry as formerly it was and no person be admitted into it but he hath actually served the office of Churchwarden or by his addresses to the whole Vestry by the paying of a fine be admitted according to an order of the Vestry made for the purpose upon the 3rd day of April 1659.

April the 6th 1659

- A**t a Vestry holden in the parish of S^t Giles Cripple-gate: / :
- 1 Resolved to discontinue the Military training in the Church-yard: /
 - 2 Resolved that this Military training may bee continued till Michaelmas next and no longer, provided that they doe nothing prejudiciall to the Church nor Churchyard }

 - 3 Resolved to goe to Councell about a clause in James Chasbrooke Squire's Will concerning doubling of his Legacies }

 - 4 Resolved that the Master and Wardens of the Company of Cookes (or whom they shall appoint) shal give notice given to them to meet the next Vestry of S^t Giles Cripple-gate at the Quene's house: / }

 - 5 Resolved, (neminem contradicente) that all the doores of the Church in the little Churchyard bee shut upp, that there shall bee no passages from them into the Churchyard }



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Memorandum.—Whereas formerly there was a Vestry held in this parish of St. Giles without Cripplegate, as occasion required consisting only of the Vicar, Churchwardens, and all that had passed the place and office of Churchwardenship, which said Vestry had the choice of Churchwardens, Overseers of the Poore, Surveyors for the Highwayes, Clerke and Sexton as also for the letting of leases and severall other buisnes of concernment for the goode of the Parish, But because of some discontented Parties in these late troubles, Inhabitants of this Parish who were enemies to the ancient government of the same, caused the Vestry to be dismist and so made choyce of the above said officers by the generality of the Inhabitants of this Parish, they being so numerous there could be no buisnes conveniently debated in that multitude, although it might much produce to the losse and damage of the Parish, The inconveniences thereof being seriously considered by divers of the Parish it was moved on Monday in Easter week being the third day of April 1659 at a generall Meeting of the whole parish in oure Church to settle a Vestry again, Being put to the question it was clearly carried by hands for the settlement thereof in that aunient way as was used in the year 1640 and tyme out of memory before.

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Under this arrangement the two divisions of the Parish (the Freedom and the Lordship) each elected its own Churchwardens, Overseers, and Sidesmen, and other Parish officers. Each managed the special business belonging to its own district; while for purposes common to both—charities, maintenance of the fabric of the Church, &c.—they consulted and voted in one general Vestry. When from deaths, disqualification by removal out of the parish, or any other cause, the members from one division became fewer than from the other, the general Vestry as a whole elected others resident in that district in which the vacancies occurred to fill the vacant places. The only limit to numbers appears to have been that the one district should not have more representatives than the other. This arrangement for the composition of the Vestry and of its work continued until the creation, in 1732, of the Lordship into a separate Parish, with its own Church of St. Luke; when the general Vestry ceased, the maintenance of the fabric of St. Giles' fell to the Freedom part, and the Common Charities were managed by a Joint Committee, the members of which were elected by each Vestry at its annual Easter meeting. The general Vestry Book becomes from this time a record of the proceedings of this Committee. The minutes of the Freedom Vestry from 1692 are still preserved among our Parish records. In June, 1708, the names of the Freedom and general Vestry were ordered "to be fairly engrossed in frames, and set up in the Vestry Room." The number of names on the Freedom Roll was 72.

The Account of the general Vestry is known as the Grand Account, common to both, and audited by members appointed by the general Vestry.

During the last 150 years there must have been something in the surroundings of the Vestry Clerk of Cripplegate which has conduced to long tenure of their office. The following are the dates of appointments to the office: John Pine, 1669; Nicholas Wilkins, 1688; Richard Smith, 1694; John Freeman, 1696; James Crabtree, 1724; Thomas Stagg, 1731; Thomas Strong, 1768; Peter Earnshaw, 1794; Alexander Baylis, 1840—Mr. Baylis held the appointment until 1879, dying in 1882.

The position of Churchwarden of St. Giles, Cripplegate, is an honourable one, involving both work and responsibility, yet one that is willingly undertaken by leading parishioners. It has not always been the pleasant post it now is, for until almost recent times the duties were so multifarious and irksome that men frequently "fined" sooner than

serve. At one time the Churchwardens had to keep all the accounts, to collect personally Parish rents and bequests, and relieve the poor. The following (extracted from Dr. Freshfield's "St. Margaret, Lothbury,") gives us a quaint account of the duties of the Churchwardens in that Parish. No doubt they were similar in St. Giles, Cripplegate. Amongst other duties—

. The elder Churchwarden shall have the receiving of all dewtes dewe to the Church and so likewise the payinge of all duties bye or for the Church &c.

The younger churchwarden for the first year shall be diligent and redye to ayd and assist the elder warden with his best advice and assistance in all things toching the office of church wardenshipp he shall not take upon him anie matter toching the office of church warden without the consent and advice of the elder warden to whom he shall maeke his accompt and of him shall receive allowance.

It is noticeable that the Vestry almost invariably ordered Churchwardens to "forthwith" execute their decrees.

1690.—It is ordered, "That the Churchwardens of the Freedom and Lordship are *forthwith* to go together to collect all rents &c. belonging to the Parish and then hand over the proceeds."

Sept., 1700.—That the present Churchwardens doe *forthwith* repair to such preceding Churchwardens and Overseers of the poor as they shall have cause to believe have any writings in their hands belonging to the Freedom part of this Parish and do take the same from them and place them in a Box or Chest to be provided for that purpose with three locks and keys one to be kept by the minister, another by the Deputy and the 3rd by the Churchwarden for the time being.

During the Churchwardens' year of office they were responsible not merely for Parish documents, but for all the outlay. If there was a surplus at the audit, the balance was ordered to be forthwith handed over to their successors; if there was a deficiency there was great trouble and difficulty in repaying it. Sometimes an additional rate was ordered, and the outgoing Churchwardens had to collect it for themselves as in 1695.

Many Churchwardens, however, took care to recoup themselves for their time and trouble, as the extracts from the accounts for 1725 show. (See page 150.)

1695.—Ordered, "That an additional half year's rate be made and assessed to reimburse Mr. Ralph Cates and Mr. Henry Woolrich. Redcross precinct to be gathered by the last and the three other (precincts) by the former, unless they agree to collect together; if they do not Mr. Woolrich is first to reimburse himself out of his collection and then to pay the remainder if any to Mr. Ralph Cates."

The years 1692-9 were spoken of by the Jacobites as "the hungry years of William and Mary." The average price of wheat was £3 4s. per quarter, as against £1 15s. 4d. in the seven years before, and

£1 15s. 1d. in the seven years after. The poor in Cripplegate were many, and deficiencies in the Churchwardens' balances the rule; in 1698 matters came to a climax. The money which had been always carefully transferred from the preceding Churchwarden to his successor for laying in a stock of coals during the summer for re-sale to the poor during the winter months at summer's prices was spent—the distress had eaten up all the capital. The Minute Book says:—

April 20, 1698.—“Whereas the present Churchwarden hath not money in his hand to pay for the stock of coles for the use of the poor and that whereas *at the request* of the Gentlemen of the Vestry the Deputy and Common Councilmen will lay down monies to pay for the same, That the next and succeeding Churchwardens shall and doe on the 24th of July next pay or cause to be paid unto the said Deputy and Common Councilmen all such monies as they shall lay out as aforesaid and *their laying out the said monies at request as aforesaid not to be esteemed any precedent for the future.*”

The Easter Monday election follows on the 25th. Evidently no one cared to undertake the responsibilities of office under the conditions that prevailed.

The following is a summary of the result of the election. (The value of the “fines” where not given in the Minutes is estimated according to the table of 1694):—

		£	s.	d.
14	fine for the Office of Churchwarden - - -	166	0	0
1	“ “ Churchwarden and Overseer -	15	0	0
4	“ “ Overseer - - - -	20	0	0
7	“ “ Overseer, Scavenger, & Constable	70	0	0
1	“ “ Scavenger and Overseer -	6	0	0
1	“ “ Constable - - - -	4	0	0
1	“ “ Scavenger - -	2	0	0
	Total value of fines -	283	0	0

Part of the amount was expended as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
To make up a gift - - - - -	15	0	0
To the old collectors - - - - -	40	0	0
To the new collectors - - - - -	50	0	0

Three notes of hand (received for fines) each of them of £10 value to T. H. [Churchwarden 1693] and to R. M. [Churchwarden 1692]. Total, £60.

On the 9th June, 1699, a committee is appointed to inquire how the remainder was spent.

At this Vestry Samuel Seaton was elected Upper Churchwarden, and an anxious and trying time he must have had, for the ex-Churchwardens, who were creditors to the Vestry, were in no mood to allow their claims to be passed over with the usual formula, “*to be paid as soon as conveniently may be.*”

The Gentlemen of the Vestry resolve henceforth to keep a firm hand over the accounts.

April, 1700.—It is ordered “That for the time to come no Churchwarden lay or cause to be laid out at any one time any greater summe of money than 40/- for the use of the Parish nor cause any repairs to be done above the value of 40/- (except church repairs) without having an order of the Vestry for the same.”

April, 1701.—The Churchwardens are ordered “To render monthly accounts to the special vestry.”

April, 1703.—It is ordered that “The Churchwardens shall monthly leave their accounts with the deputy or one of the Common Councilmen to be passed by whom they shall appoint.”

Later on, when the amount due to a Churchwarden was great, interest was allowed for the amount. *See* the following :—

Oct. 31, 1712.—The major part of the Committee appointed to audite the accounts of Mr. John Child Churchwarden and of Mr. Henry Ford and Mr. Thomas Spittle overseers of the poor for the last year having the ninth day of October instant reported £223 3s. 11d. due to the said Mr. Child on the ballance of his said accounts, and £35 5s. 2d. due to the said Mr. Ford and Mr. Spittle on the balance of their said accounts, it is ordered that this Vestry do agree with the said Committee in their said report and do confirm the same and that the said Mr. Child Mr. Ford and Mr. Spittle be allowed and paid usuall interest for their respective monies so due to them as aforesaid to commence from the said ninth day of October until their several debts are paid.

Dec. 10, 1713.—Interest due to Mr. Child in October last be paid out of the last over rate.

Nov. 5, 1716.—Reported due to Mr. John Child on the ballance of his account as Ch^w £223 3s. 11d. for which he was ordered six per cent. He has been paid off £23 3s. 11d. and there is now due for principal the sum of £200.

Sept. 12, 1717.—To Mr. J. C. for one years interest £12.

Feb. 7, 1719.—To Mr. Child for one year and three quarters interest £21.

April 29, 1720.—To Mr. Child for one year and a half interest £15.

July 8, 1721.—To Mr. Child a years interest due the 24th ult. £10.

The interest on the last two years is reduced to 5 per cent.

The first portion of the foregoing extracts refers to the audit of the Churchwardens' and Overseers' accounts for year ending at Easter, 1712, the result is anticipated, and the effect of it is seen at the Easter Election.

At Easter, 1712.—

April 21.—Ordered, “That Mr. Richard Smith and Mr. Thomas Burgis be and they are elected Churchwardens and John Craile Esq., Mr. Benjamin Hodson, overseers of the poor for the year ensuing.”

Ordered, “That the said Mr. Richard Smith be and he is excused from the said office of Churchwarden he having paid his fine for the same—and that Mr. Daniel Quailles be Churchwarden in his room.”

April 21, afternoon.—

Ordered, “That Mr. Daniel Quailles be excused from the office of Churchwarden he having fined for the same and that Mr. John Armstead be Churchwarden in his room.”

Ordered, "That the said Mr. John Armstead be excused from the said office of Churchwarden he having fined for the same and that Mr. Robert Horne be Churchwarden in his room."

The same formula was gone through with thirteen men who were elected as Churchwardens and fined sooner than serve; the Vestrymen sitting for seven days (sometimes having two meetings on the same day), from April 21st to May 2nd, before two men were found willing to serve the office. The same difficulty arose in the election of Overseers—seven men refusing and fining accordingly. During this election the Vestry sat for five days.

June, 1712.—It is ordered "That Samuel Carr Churchwarden doe forthwith take up at the rate of 6 per cent. interest per annum the sum of £100 for six months and that towards securing the repayment thereof with interest as aforesaid the Notes taken for fines at Easter last be put into the hands of such persons as shall advance the same and that the said Mr. Carr doe forthwith pay out of the said £100 to the present overseers as much as will pay the poor for a month."

The still wretchedly poverty stricken state of the Parish, and very possibly the trouble about rating the Vicar had to do with the difficulty of getting men to serve, for in April, 1718 (in Dr. Bennet's time), a similar difficulty occurred, and the same process had to be gone through. Ten men fined rather than serve, and seven different meetings of the Vestry were held.

The fines on the former occasion, had they been levied in full, must have amounted to nearly £200, and in the latter year did amount to £172, which was paid by the Deputy into the account opened in 1716 for paying the Freedom's debts.

The amount of such fine was settled in 1694, as follows:—"For Upper or Under Churchwarden, £12 at least; if Under Churchwarden fines for upper £10. Overseers, £5. Sidesman, £1.

In 1708 the fines were:—Churchwardens, £12; Overseers, £6; Constable, £5; Scavenger, £3; for the three latter offices together not more than £10, "exclusive of fees to the Clerke and Beadle."

In 1747, it was ordered, "That all Under Churchwardens who shall fine for Upper Churchwarden shall pay £12."

This was raised in 1752 to eighteen guineas.

In 1788, it is ordered, "That if the persons elected do not fine within 7 days he shall pay 3 guineas for Sidesman.

" 8	"	Overseer.
" 16	"	Churchwarden.

Again on Oct. 4th, 1799, "The Committee appointed on 28th April last report that the fines should be for—

Sidesman	-	-	-	£5	5	0
Overseer	-	-	-	£10	10	0
Churchwarden	-	-	-	£21	0	0

Upper Churchwarden after having served the office of Under Churchwarden, £31 10 0

All offices	-	-	-	£43	15	0
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The Vestry adopt the report, except the fine for "All offices," which they fix at £37 16s. *od.*

Intolerable meddling of the Vestry with the Churchwardens and Overseers caused the latter to "flatly refuse" to be handicapped by any Committee of the Vestry, and explains the following entry of 1731:—

The Committee appointed by the worshipfull the Alderman to audit the late officers accounts Reported that they had with due care examined the same and that they found several large and extravagant expenses charged and greatly exorbitant demands for services done new and unknown to them and what was never charged in former accounts to the prejudice of the public that therefore the said Committee *with due respect to this Vestry* did offer the following proposalls as rules and directions for the officers in future which being read were agreed to by the Vestry.

1st.—That a sum not exceeding thirty shillings be allowed to regale them the day they are sworn in office.

2nd.—That the Churchwardens be allowed thirty shillings as charges at My Lord Mayor's when they attend to "answer the complaints of the Poor."

3rd.—Accounts to be put under proper headings and not blended promiscuously together—especially Churchwardens and Overseers to be kept separate.

4th.—Proper vouchers.

5th.—To be ready for audit within three months after being out of office.

1757.—*Proposed payment of Vestrymen.*—Whereas it was represented to the Vestry that it has many times been found very difficult to get a sufficient number of Vestrymen in order to do the business of this Parish and that many times great delays have been occasioned thereby—it is ordered, "That the Churchwardens for the time being do and shall pay to the first twelve Vestrymen who shall make their appearance in the Vestry (exclusive of the Vicar and the Churchwardens) and shall stay to do the business thereof one shilling each as an encouragement for their early attendance."

At a Vestry held on May 6th the resolution was not confirmed, and was ordered to be discharged.

It seems to have been the duty of the Churchwardens to personally assist when the officers distrained for rates (*see* Accounts, page 150); and in 1751 we find a Churchwarden assaulted in the execution of his duty by a ratepayer, and the Vestry ordering the ratepayer "to be prosecuted."

As late as the commencement of the present century, Churchwardens' duties do not seem to have been particularly pleasant, for we find :—

1811.—Ordered, “That a Committee be appointed to enquire into the present state of conducting the parish business, and to see if any or what improvements can be made in the same to render the offices of Churchwarden and Overseer *less burdensome*.

In 1829 there was much agitation in the parish respecting the “Select Vestry,” during which both the Vestry and Churchwardens were roundly abused. The following is a choice extract from a Pamphlet:—

Churchwardens: Men who are supposed (!) by the uninitiated to be men of grave and sober bearing.

Our Churchwardens feast in the Silver, and give us the farthings.

An “Open Vestry Committee” was formed, and in 1833 published a copy of a manuscript book in the British Museum, giving an account of the Parish Estates and Gifts in the year 1686; along with this they issued a circular, in which several pertinent questions were asked, among others—“Do the whole of those Estates and Gifts belong to the Parish at the present time? If they do, are the proceeds properly applied?” They further say “That the Select Vestry, alarmed at the threatened investigation, are taking steps to cause a *partial* inquiry, but the only means to reform the evils complained of and to prevent their recurrence in the future is to return to Open Vestries.” The Select Vestry seem to have cared little for the obloquy showered on them. They showed, however (as told in the Minute Books), to the satisfaction of a Committee of the House of Commons, that they were discharging their duties efficiently as their predecessors had done “time out of memory,” that the Vestry (then consisting of sixty members, whose names are all given with the dates of their first rating in the Parish, and the length of their services as Vestrymen) was for all practical purposes an open one, for any person who chose to serve the different offices or to fine for the same, was eligible as a Vestryman.

The different trustees of the Charitable gifts showed their balances and how the gifts were disposed of, and the Vicar in answer to queries put to him replied, “That he had never had reason to be dissatisfied with the distribution of the gifts and had never interfered with the Charitable trusts but was always content with the few Tickets given him for distribution by the Churchwardens.”

It is curious how two contiguous parishes should have carried on their affairs for so long a time—on totally different conditions—for just a century previous the parish of St. Botolph, Aldersgate, made their Select Vestry an Open one, and so it continues.

The agitation continued more or less until 1869, when, after many meetings and much excitement in the parish generally, the Select Vestry were induced to apply to Parliament for an Act constituting the Vestry an Open one. This Act, passed in the session of 1869, came into operation on the 1st January, 1870. It recites "That the twenty members of the Select Vestry might retain their seats until death, or until they cease to reside in the parish; and that four additional members were to be elected by the parishioners, making twenty-four in all; and as vacancies occur amongst the members of the original Vestry, their vacant places should be filled at the next annual election (held usually during the first week in May)." The Vicar, Churchwardens, and Overseers are *ex-officio* members of the Vestry. One-third of the members elected by the parishioners retire every year, but are eligible for re-election. In the present year (1888) Dr. Simpson and Mr. W. Bassingham are the only members remaining of the old Select Vestry.

The election of Churchwardens rests with the Vestry, although attempts have been made, both by Vicars and the general parishioners, to deprive it of its ancient rights.

At Easter, 1725, the Vicar (Dr. Bennet) challenged the right of the Vestry to elect *both* Churchwardens, and claimed for himself the right of nominating *one*. A writ of mandamus was issued, ordering Dr. Harwood, the Commissary of the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's, to swear in Dr. Bennet's nominee. The Vestry resolved to defend this "ancient custom," with the result that the Vicar's nominee is not heard of again, and thus, no doubt, establishing "their ancient right."

In 1775, the general Parish elected two Churchwardens, and thus caused the legal right of the Select Vestry to elect the Churchwardens to be raised. Lord Mansfield non-suited the general parishioners on the ground that they could not prove their nominees duly elected, or that the election of Churchwardens for the parish was ever in the parish at large.

The usual practice has been for the senior Churchwarden to retire, and for the Vestry to elect as senior Warden for the ensuing year the

gentleman who had, during the preceding year, acted as junior Warden; then to elect the junior Warden from among the parishioners who are qualified by having previously passed through the offices of Sidesman and Overseer.

This practice was in use so far back as 1580, as may be seen by an inspection of the Churchwardens' names in the accounts of that period, and continued even when the Vestry was Open, between 1640 and 1659. The minutes show that, with almost invariable regularity, the aforesaid practice has been the common and usual custom of electing the Churchwardens.

The Overseers are nominated by the Vestry; the usual course being to nominate four persons and send the names to the Alderman of the Ward for him to select two. This is the only occasion in which the Alderman has anything to do with the management of the parish.

The four sidesmen are also elected by the Vestry at Easter, one being usually chosen from each of the four precincts. They have no seat in the Vestry.

THE VESTRY OF THE PARISH OF ST. GILES,
WITHOUT CRIPPLEGATE, 1887.

Vicar.

Rev. Prebendary ALBERT BARFF, M.A.

Churchwardens.

JOHN JAMES BADDELEY.

LEONARD WM. CUBITT.

Overseers.

THOMAS MEIN.

RICHARD DYSON.

Vestrymen.

FREDK. H. SIMPSON.

WM. BASSINGHAM.

JOHN H. WOODLEY.

JAMES HARVEY.

JOHN CORKE.

ISAAC BOUSQUET.

JAMES LAKE.

EDWARD SMITH WEEDON.

JOSEPH MANN.

J. MONTGOMERY MCBRYDE.

JAMES WESTERBY.

HENRY JAMES FELTON.

CHARLES SPURGEON.

FRANK HEROLD.

JAMES DAWSON.

LEONARD WM. CUBITT.

JOHN CRAGGS LEEFE.

JOHN JAMES BADDELEY.

FRANCIS MCCARTHY.

THOMAS ROWING FENDICK.

THOMAS MEIN.

ROBERT DYAS.

RICHARD DYSON.

JAMES TILLET.

Vestry Clerks.

EDGAR A. BAYLIS.

ROBERT PEARCE.





THE QUEST HOUSE AND THE "FOUR SHOPPES."

IT is very interesting, and at the same time sad, to trace how many fine City churches have had their external appearance spoilt by the erection of shops and houses against, and in many cases into, their very walls.

The most notable instance of this is the Priory Church of St. Bartholomew, Smithfield, where some most outrageous encroachments have been allowed. In the case of St. Giles' Church the origin of the Quest House and shops is clear, and the erection is in some sense excusable.

On the plan of the ground surrounding the Church, shown on page 190, it will be seen that there is a narrow strip running along the north side, on which are now the Quest House and the "Four Shoppes." This was originally part of the Churchyard ground. Before the burning of the Church in 1545 it is probable that there was some building corresponding to the present "Quest House" on the same site by the north door, for in ancient times the Church porch was the usual place for making and settling agreements, for paying annual rents, in fact the centre for Parish business. It may be noted that in building the Quest House and "Four Shoppes," two of the original windows of the Church were blocked up—the positions of these are clearly seen from the interior.

The Hustings deeds of the Corporation of the City of London record in 1564, a "grant from William Rylandes of Folkestone alias Folstone, co. Kent, gent., and Agnes his wife widow of John Rogers, late surveyor to the town and works of Calais to Armygell Wade, of 'Belsey's,' Parish of Hampstead, co. Middlesex, and William his son, of 'The Common Hall of St. Giles, Parish of St. Giles' Without, Cripple-gate,' in return for 100 acres of 'marche' ground in the parishes of Lydd

and Browne Hill, alias Prome Hill, co. Kent and Sussex." In 1567 there appears a grant from Armygell Wade, of the Common Hall of the Parish of St. Giles, Cripplegate, to James Pilkington, Bishop of Durham.

This "Common Hall" could hardly have been any other building than that afterwards known as the Quest House.

In an arbitration settlement (1582) of a question as to alleged encroachment on Parish property, the aggressor, in acknowledgment of Parish rights is—

To yield and pay for the same yearly to us and our successors, Vicars and Churchwardens of the said Parish, one pottle of Gascon wine at one entier payment, namely on that day in every yeare from henceforth wherein the old Churchwardens do yield up their account and newe ones chosen, That is to say on the Thursday next before the feast of Pentecoste, and the same payment to be made in the "Quest House" at the usual supper there kept by the old Churchwardens upon their accompt made.

Balances at the annual audit of Sworders accounts are ordered (in 1593) to be placed in the "greate cheste," and in 1594 in the "greate cheste in the Queste House." This great chest and its keys are often referred to. Occasional entries, mentioning the Quest House, occur from time to time. In the minutes of the Vestry in November, after the Great Fire, is the following :—

If any Company be allowed the use and priviledge of the roomes one paire of stairs high in the Quest House of keeping a Court of Assistants they shall pay £6 a year at the least for the same. And again that what was formerly the "Quest House" Kitchen be let to Robert Moss Citizen of London for eleven years at £20 fine and £20 per annum rent for the same.

In 1654 a fine of £260 for a lease of Parish property in Sugar Loaf Court was paid to the Vestry (*see* page 145). Provision had been made for the aged poor in various bequests, but no funds were available for clothing poor children. With the money now in hand they propose to supply this want. The part of the Churchyard west of the north door appeared an eligible spot, and on this they resolve to build what is afterwards known in the accounts as the "four shoppes."

Nov. 5, 1654.—Expended at Mr. Jopson's when the ancients of the Parish met to view with Mr. Harman the "Little Churchyard" to build shope on, *2s. 6d.*

The "ancients" were not long in setting to work, for in 1656 the "shoppes" were finished and let at an annual rent of £6 apiece, with a fine of £10 for three, and £14 for the fourth. The extra £4 was given to the poor.

The accounts in connection with the erection of the "shoppes" follow :—

1655.—	£	s.	d.
Carpenters work - - - - -	80	0	0
Bricklayers „ - - - - -	24	0	0
Plasterers „ - - - - -	17	0	0
Smith and Ironwork - - - - -	7	10	0
Mason—work done about the Church and the new shoppes -	2	7	0
Paid to M ^r . Frier for priming and laying in oile the new shoppes -	4	15	0
Paving before the new shoppes and the Church Doore and for gravell	4	8	6
Paviour breakfast - - - - -	0	3	0
Paid to Plumber for covering the new shoppes and for cutters and spoutes thereto belonging - - - - -	40	0	0
For glazing new shoppes and rooms - - - - -	3	0	0
Paid to severall poore people out of the fine - - - - -	4	0	0
1656.—Given to M ^r . M. Browne, Councillor, when M ^r . Deputy and M ^r . Edlin went to speake to him about the four shoppes -	1	0	0

The last entry shows there was a doubt as to something either in title or expenditure.

From the "New Shoppes" provision for Allhallowtide (1657) for forty "gray shuites and coates" for children.

	£	s.	d.
Paid for 80 yardes of gray Carsyes for forty shuites and coates ffor Children at 3s. 4d. per yearde - - - - -	13	6	8
Cannus and lynng for the suites and coates - - - - -	1	12	6
Gut strings and horne buttons - - - - -	0	7	6
Cloath for the Pockets - - - - -	0	2	4
Hooks and eyes, tape, pasboard and thread - - - - -	0	6	10
Making the 20 shuites at 2s. per piece - - - - -	2	0	0
Making the 20 coates at 8d. „ - - - - -	0	13	4
The overplus of the rent issuing from the new shoppes, on the aforesaid day to severall Poor people of the Freedom and Lordshipp £5 10s. 10d. whose names are entered in a book for that account - - - - -	5	10	10
	£24	0	0

On 22nd October, 1666, six weeks after the "Great Fire," the Vestry resolved for that year to make up some deficiencies in their gifts (evidently caused by loss of some of their property within the walls by that disaster) and expend the £8 8s. remaining on the children's "coates and suites."

The Vestry held their "shoppes" in peace until the year 1681, when the Vicar, Dr. Fowler, "discovered that the site belonged to himself, and accordingly claimed a recognition of his rights."

The Vestry, finding the title in the Vicar, took a lease of the land and houses from the north-west door from him in 1682 for 40 years, at an

annual rent of 2s., and rebuilding the Vicarage House. This is described in the Minutes as "equivalent to such houses and lands as shall be made over by our Vicar, and the Deane and Chapter of St. Paul's, in consideration of rebuilding the 'Vicaredge House.'" In 1682 the title of the Quest House was also discovered to "belong to the Vicar, and the Vestry took a lease of it also for 40 years at the yearly rent of 2s., and that the Vestry should raise the turret of the Church fifteen feet." In 1700 the Quest House, and the houses in front of the Church up to and including the "Great Gate," were included in one lease of 40 years from the Vicar to the Vestry at a yearly rent of 4s., and immunity on the part of the Vicar from all Ward and Parish rates, at the time valued at about £4 per annum, and in the event of the agreement being infringed the Vicar to have the right of re-entry.

In the succeeding years the cost of the poor in the Parish had increased so as to require an assessment of 3s. in the Pound, and in 1714 Dr. Fowler was charged and rated for Poor and Ward Rates. He died before payment. His successor, Dr. Whitfield, was rated immediately after his induction and declined to pay; he was being hurried off to Newgate as a defaulter, when a neighbour kindly advanced the money and set him free; his applications to the Vestry for indemnification were refused, and he was told to exercise his right of re-entry. He died shortly after, and his successor, Dr. Bennet, was treated in the same manner. He refused to pay the rates, a warrant was issued and the Doctor complains that "he could not go about his business in the Lordship part of the Parish without endangering his liberty." This lasted for five months. He probably paid his rates under protest, and his person is thus protected, but in 1718 he commences proceedings against the Vestry in the Court of King's Bench to establish his right of re-entry. He obtained judgment and established his title to this property, as well as to part of the Castle Tavern and Pratt's buildings. These he then re-conveyed to the Vestry, on condition of being freed from all rates. Disputes as to what rates were meant, followed. The Vicar re-entered the Court of King's Bench 18 months after. The Vestry met this by an action in the Court of Chancery, as the guardian of charitable property. There it was decided that, upon the Vestry re-imbursing the Vicar the Parish and Ward Rates and paying the former legal expenses, the Vicar should execute to persons named by the Vestry a new lease for the residue of the former lease and deliver possession accordingly. Trustees were appointed in July, 1723; the "shoppes" were let

in the summer of 1724. The Vicar was still not satisfied in respect of the rates, and issued writs of ejectment, and the Vestry resolve to defend its tenants, reserving the *Mortuary* and "*Pall*" monies as a *fund for the purpose*. In this year the Parish removed all their papers from the Quest House for safety, placing them in the charge of the Vestry Clerk, "who is to keep them at his residence." In 1726 the differences between Vicar and Parish are apparently settled, as we find that "the Deputy is to take the assistance of the rest of the Gentlemen of the Common Council of this Ward, and they be and are hereby desired to beautify the Quest House, in such a manner as they shall think proper."

In 1728 a Committee was appointed to audit the accounts of the Trustees appointed under the agreement of 1723, and they were ordered "to pay over the balance to the Churchwarden." The "balance" due to the Freedom was £18 19s. 2d.

In 1738, the lease granted by Dr. Fowler expired, and the Vestry treat with Dr. Nicholls about the "Quest House, and the houses under the Church," and in February, 1740, come to the conclusion to accept a lease from Dr. Nicholls for 40 years, from Christmas, 1740, at a yearly rent of 40s. to the Vicar of the Parish, and £10 annual payment to Dr. Nicholls, his executors, administrators or assigns; Dr. Nicholls to be freed from all Parish and Ward Taxes, except after the Rate of £50 per year for the Land Tax and to pay the Lamp Rate.

The shops do not seem to have increased in value, as in August, 1759, we find the house "next the Church-door," is offered to be let on lease for 20 years at £5 per annum rent, and £50 to be laid out in repairs for two years, but the old tenant does not take it up; it is then let to another on the same terms as to lease and repairs but £4 per annum rent, clear of all rates and taxes whatsoever.

In addition to the houses on the west of the Quest House, there seems to have been one or two small shops along the front, between the Quest House and the north-east door at the east end, for in 1704, we find an order of the Vestry for the removal of one of them, that the congregation might be better able to enter the Church at this "north-east door," and later on the Vestry saw the necessity of providing for the increasing number of persons passing the Church along Fore Street.

In December, 1756, the Vestry being summoned to meet and consider how the narrow part of Fore Street (near the Parish Church), might be rendered more safe and commodious, they "unanimously agree that application be humbly made to the Right Hon. the Dean and

Chapter of St. Paul's, London, the Patron and Ordinary of our said Church and Parish, for they have leave to pull down the old shoppes erected against the north side of the said Church, part of the premises on lease to the said Parish from the Rev. Dr. Nicholls, the present Vicar, granted for a term of 40 years from Christmas, 1740, in order to lay open a way for foot passengers over the ground on which the said shops now stand, in such manner as shall distinguish the said ground to belong to the said Church."

License was granted June 2, 1757; the houses were pulled down and the materials sold, fetching £49 7s., and it was ordered that this money, so far as it would go, "be applied to building a room at the east end of the Quest Room House, and that in finishing the vacant ground, an iron palisade upon a dwarf wall be erected from the corner of the said intended little room to the extent of the pavement." This dwarf wall and rails now stand as originally erected.

In September, 1793, the then Vicar renewed the lease of the Quest House and "Four Shoppes" to the Vestry for a further term of 40 years, on the same conditions as before.

When the further widening of Fore Street came under discussion in 1809, the Vestry proposed to pull down the property between the Churchyard gate and the Quest House, for the purpose of widening the street and to put up a low wall and railing, so that the Churchyard might be opened up and the proportions of the Church better seen.

Under the impression that the increased rating which would thus be derived from the opposite side of the street would counterbalance the loss to the Parish, they applied to the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's for leave to carry out the scheme.

The Dean and Chapter replied that they saw no objection to the plan, but that they could give no leave without the consent of the Vicar, and a full consideration of his rights. Nothing, however, was done in the matter.

In 1824, the Vicar (Mr. Holmes) brought before the Vestry the now dilapidated state of the Vicarage House (built in 1681), stating that in the event of his death, his family, who were ill able to bear the expense, might be called upon to make good the dilapidations. With a view to obviate this, and to secure the Vestry in the continuous possession of this property, "which," he says, "has been held by the Parish since 1681, and regularly renewed by my predecessors since that time, and I have no wish to transfer it to *other hands*, I propose to cancel the existing lease, and to grant a new one for forty years, upon fair and

equitable terms, the new lease to contain the same covenants as the existing one." The settlement of these terms he proposes to leave to his own surveyor and the Parish one. The Vestry ask that the sum of money required for a renewal should be stated.

The Vicar encloses the Surveyor's report, which recommends him to ask £1,477 16s. 3d., free from deductions, the gross annual value being £270, and the net value £236 9s. To this the Vestry reply "that they consider it inexpedient at present to enter into any negotiation for renewal of the lease from the Vicar." When the matter was again brought forward six months after, the re-consideration of the Vicar's letter was ordered "to be *postponed*."

On 8th October, 1830, the Vicar granted a lease of this property for 21 years to John Vivian and Christopher Hodgson, containing the same covenants as the existing one—the second lease to run concurrently with the first until its expiry in 1833. Mr. Holmes died on 15th June, ten days before the expiry of the old lease; his successor, Dr. Blomberg, applied to the Court of Common Pleas to have the new lease under these circumstances declared void. After a protracted litigation, and a reference to the Five Judges, the new lease was declared valid, inasmuch, as granted within the statutory limit of three years before the end of the old one, it was not a lease in reversion within the meaning of the Act. By this the Vestry were deprived of the beneficiary interest they had hitherto had in the property, and whatever advantage accrues now from the lease goes to private individuals, instead of, as formerly, to the Parish as a whole.

Many parishioners still hope that means may be devised to remove these unsightly buildings from the front of their ancient Church, and thus re-open the windows now blocked up, and restore the north side, facing the street, to something like its original design.

There is no reference in any of the Parish Records to any total rebuilding of the Quest House, although there are several references to repairs and "beautifyings." The probability therefore is, that the present building is substantially the same as when first erected.

In 1811, various alterations were made. An old view, now hanging in the Quest Room, dated 1811, shows the Quest House building with two large windows over each other above the Church Porch, on the arch of which is the figure of "Time with his scythe," and an hour-glass on each side. The Quest Room has only one long window, and small windows (probably to light the staircase) are also shown. The roof is

high pitched and tiled. This view was probably taken just before the following alterations were effected. Later in the same year, the whole of the front was taken down and set back for the purpose of widening the pathway, at the same time the windows were re-modelled and the roof raised and slated as we now see it. In the same year we find it stated "That the two rooms under the Quest House, let to the Alderman and the Common Councilmen, are converted into a Watch-house."



NORTH-EAST VIEW OF ST. GILES, CRIPPLEGATE, SHEWING THE QUEST HOUSE,
FOUR "SHOPPES," AND GREAT GATEWAY.

Since 1729, the upper part of the Quest House has been used as the residence of the Sexton. From "tyme out of mind" the Vestry have met in the room "one paire of stairs high" (referred to in 1582, and again after the Fire of 1666). In this room is a good collection of oil paintings of Parish celebrities. The portrait of Sir Matthew Wood, Bart., painted by Mr. Patten, and purchased in 1822 by the subscriptions of

several inhabitants of the Ward, and that of the Rev. Frederick Blomberg, D.D., hang here. In addition to these is one of the late Vicar, the Rev. Philip Parker Gilbert, M.A., presented to the Vestry in 1882, by Churchwarden Cornelius Gillett, also one of Richard Lambert Jones, who was for 32 years a representative of the Ward in the Court of Common Council, and Chairman of the Bridge House Estate during the building of New London Bridge. He has been described as a "giant for public work." Portraits of John Pickering, Deputy, 1862, and of John Ellis, for many years Secretary of the Cripplegate Savings Bank, must not be omitted.

An engraving taken from a portrait of Sir William Staines, painted by Sir William Beechy, for the Carpenters' Company in 1801, a Hatchment of the Royal Arms in a splendid state of preservation, that was hung in the Church at the death of George III, and the armorial bearings of Sir Matthew Wood, also adorn the room. There are also views of the Quest House and Staines' Almshouses, maps and plans of the ancient and modern Parish, lists of the members of the Vestry in 1833 and 1887, and sundry other interesting prints and engravings. The Vestry Clerk's office is on the ground floor.







THE INQUEST.

THE Inquest were a body of men whose chief duty it was to look after the local and domestic affairs of their Ward. Elected on St. Thomas's Day in the same manner as the Common Councilmen, one of their duties was to see that the election of Common Councillors was carried out in a proper manner. It was therefore necessary that they should be previously elected. In consequence of this duty no member of the one body could be a member of the other. The number in Cripplegate Without probably varied from 16 to 20. Stow says that in 1603 Cripplegate Without had 17 members, but in 1624 there appears to have been 19. A Constable, Beadle, Scavenger, and Raker were also elected at the same time as the Inquest. The duties of the Inquest were to find out defective weights and measures; to stop hawkers from plying their trade; to see that neither cheese nor butter were sold at excessive prices; to see that no woodmonger sold any firewood at excessive prices; to see that no victualler sold unwholesome food, or charged dearer for it than proclaimed by the Mayor; to see that bread was sold at the stated price; to see that no fish, fruit, or meat was sold at unreasonable prices; to see that every man hung out a lantern; to see that the pavements and roads had no defect in them; to see that no filth lay about the streets; to see that the Constable and Beadle did their duty in looking after rogues and sturdy beggars; to see that no foreigners bought or sold with any other foreigner; to see that no Freeman coloured or disguised the goods of foreigners (we have returned to this good rule in recent times); to find out if Mass was said or sung; to present any man who would not help a Constable or Beadle in the execution of his duty; to find out abuses of every kind. The Inquest were required to present the different offenders to the Justices of the City, who ordered punishment.

The following was the Inquestman's oath :—

"You swear that you shall truly enquire and true presentment make of all such offences and nuisances as shall come to your knowledge to have been committed against the Queen's Majesty's peace, within the ward of Cripplegate Without, contrary to the articles now given you in charge. The Queen's Majesty's counsel, your fellows, and your own, you shall keep secret and undisclosed. So help you God."

St. Giles, Cripplegate, was appointed under the Inquest to be one of Four City Churches that were to give the time to ring the Curfew Bell.

The order runs as follows:—

“They are to see that no Parish Clerk do ring the bell called the Curfew after Curfew rung at the Church of St. Giles Wth Cripplegate, Bow, Barking, and St. Brides’ Churches.”

The above *résumé* of the orders, showing the duties of the Inquest, were ratified by the Court of Common Council so recently as 1825.

ORDERS.

TO BE OBSERVED BY THE WARDMOTE INQUEST OF ST. GILES
WITHOUT CRIPPLEGATE, LONDON.

Since nothing is more Ancient and laudable than the Inquest Jury of this great and flourishing City so nothing can be more commendable than decency and order to be observed amongst them as well for the preventing any ffueds or contention that may arise as also for preserving the peace and tranquility a thing so naturally agreeable to all Societies and Communities of Mankind. Therefore that this Inquest may not in anywise be deemed backward in preventing of any of the like disorders, They are resolved to keep up to the strictness of good rule and order and for that purpose for the better maintaining and preserving the same, They do hereby mutually agree to observe and keep the following Orders, viz. :—

	£	s.	d.
That upon every Day this Quest shall meet upon Business every Member thereof shall appear with his Livery Gown or Black Gown or hire one for that purpose upon pain of paying to the use of the Quest - - - - -	o	2	6
For every Oath or Curse that any Member shall swear and curse upon the accusation of any Member of this Quest the offender shall forfeit and pay to the Poor's Box - - - - -	o	1	o
If any Member during the sitting upon business shall be absent at nine of the clock in the Morning by the Church Clock or after the Great Bell or Tenor hath (according to the usual custom) Tollen One hundred and one strokes, without leave of the foreman and four of this Inquest, he shall pay to the use of the said Quest - - - - -	o	1	o
And for every hour of the day besides - - - - -	o	o	6
If any Member shall absent himself half a day (except as before excepted) he shall forfeit to the use of the Quest - - - - -	o	3	4
If any Member as aforesaid shall absent himself during any day or days of Business his partner shall pay and defray each respective Night such expenses as shall be adjudged requisite for him to pay; his absenting partner paying him again. And if he shall refuse or neglect to pay the same Then the charge thereof shall be defrayed by this Inquest and the Offender shall be Indicted for his neglecting to appear and do the business of this Quest or shall forfeit to the use of the Quest - - - - -	1	1	o

Provided nevertheless that any of the Inquest may be absent a whole day or forenoon or afternoon or any hours in the day on any day of business upon leave first had of the foreman and four of the same Inquest and also acquiescing and agreeing with the above mentioned penalties as forfeitures.

If any Member of this Inquest shall offer or use any indecent or irrevelent speeches or otherwise misbehave himself towards his fellow Quest Men or any other persons which shall appear at the said Quest during the time of the sitting he shall pay such fine as the major part of this Inquest shall set or impose upon the offender.

If any Question shall arise during the sitting of this Inquest such Question shall be put by the foreman and be decided by the Majority of the said Inquest.

And Lastly the Ward Clerk shall cause these Orders to be fairly written and put up in a frame to be set up in the Quest House during the sitting of this Inquest to the intent that every Member thereof may have recourse to the same and the better know his Duty therein.

The orders of the Cripplegate Inquest hang in the Quest Room—as will be seen, they are framed on the good principle that those who know best how to rule themselves are most fit to govern. There is no date given, but at the bottom of the rules it states that “the former orders being greatly obliterated, they were transcribed and an exact copy made in 1837.”

The work of the Inquest was in general operation until 1857 when, by an Act of Common Council known as “Carden’s” Act, the mode of returning the Members of the Court elected on St. Thomas’s Day was altered, and the Inquest shorn of this the sole remaining part of its original powers. Shortly before this time other of its functions—many of which had long been allowed to fall into desuetude—had been taken away by legislative enactments.

The last duty performed by the “Cripplegate Inquest” was the inspection of publicans’ and other tradesmen’s weights and measures. That the Inquest had been an important body, and had rendered good service in the management of the City is evident by the following extract from the report of a Committee to the Court of Common Council (wherein they advise the suspension of its duties) :—

“Your Committee do not fail to recognize in the institutions of the Inquests admirable instruments in times past for the efficient and independent management of many branches of municipal and legal administration and means of obtaining good government within the City, and cannot but acknowledge the services rendered by their fellow Citizens in the performance of the duties formerly pertaining to those offices frequently at much personal sacrifice and inconvenience.”

The only instance in which an Inquest is now elected is in the Ward of Portsoken, the Inquest in this Ward being the Trustees of the

charitable funds devised by Sir Samuel Starling (formerly an Alderman of that Ward) and elected solely for the purposes of that Trust.

In connection with the Cripplegate Inquest may be mentioned a curious collection of plate that was in the possession of that body until the year 1865; it was then presented to the Vestry, in whose charge it still remains. When the Inquest "dined" it was usual to have the plate displayed on the table.

An antique horn cup, with silver foot and lip.

A brown tobacco dish, with silver feet, presented in the year 1568.

A rummer, the gift of Mr. Vaus, for being excused serving Scavenger in 1608.

A pair of goblets, presented by Peter Phillips, for being excused serving Scavenger, 1612.

A chased silver cup, the gift of James Prescott.

A large goblet, engraved E. S.

A rummer, the gift of Eleanor Hodson.

A chased gilt salver.





THE CHURCHYARD.

THE old Churchyard of St. Giles' appears to have been of small extent, corresponding most probably to what is marked "A" on the accompanying plan of the present Churchyard. Aggas' Map (*see* page 9) would seem to support this view.

The ground between the wall at the east end—running to the ditch and the road leading from the "Cripple Gate" into Fore Street—was very probably the "Garden" near Cripple Gate (mentioned in 1549 in the Hustings Deeds of the Corporation) which, after the expiration of a lease granted to Sir George Harper, was to be used as follows:—"The said gardeyn shalbe converted, imployed and putt to thee use of a cōen Churcheyarde or burying place for the ded bodyes of chrysten people and to none other use." (*See* B on plan.)

When these conditions were carried out we do not know, evidently not when Aggas' Map was drawn in 1556, as in it the wall at eastern end of the old Churchyard is clearly shown. When it did take place the whole was probably not required for a burying ground, and some sort of tenements, as shewn in Aggas' Map, were allowed to remain on the frontage to the road. Then, for the sake of profit, the Parish allowed permanent houses to be built. Small encroachments followed, until the whole of this ground was covered with houses as we now see it. That such a course was in progress, the following extracts referring to the eastern corner of the original Churchyard show:—

1648.—Received of Frances Smartfoot for one whole year's rent for a piece of ground belonging to the Churchyard on the backside of his house the which he built upon. Due at Lady Day. 2s.

Received of ——— for one whole year's rent for a piece of ground taken out of the Churchyard adjoining to his house which he built upon, 10s.

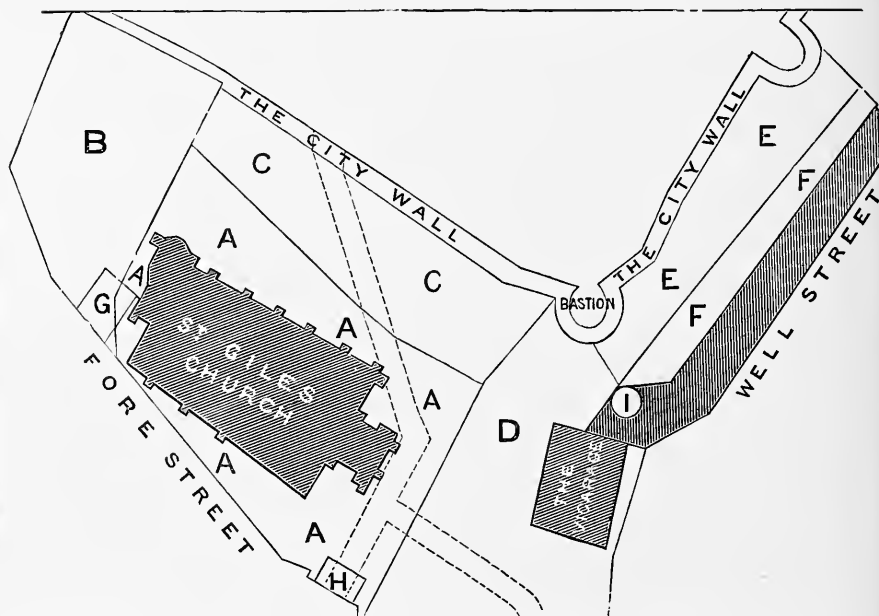
Received of John Elliot for one whole year's rent for a piece of ground adjoining the Churchyard, 1s.

Received of John Redding for one whole year's rent for a piece of the Churchyard ground nye Mr. Smartfoot's, 10s.

In 1656 three of these entries change to "Received of Francis Smartfoot for one whole year's rent for *three* pieces of Churchyard ground adjoining his dwelling."

In 1708 this piece of ground, under the name of Pratt's Buildings, was let on a lease of 61 years at 40s. per annum, and £15 fine, on the condition that the tenant was not to darken the Church nor do any damage to the building.

In the light of above entries there can be no doubt but that part of the ground between the Church on the east, and what is now Cripplegate Buildings, was once used for burials, and this will fully account for the number of human bones that were dug up when recently excavating for the foundations of a new warehouse.



The portions marked "A" in plan was all Churchyard, until first the "Quest House," then the buildings just referred to, part of the Castle Tavern and later on the "four shoppes" were built upon it.

The Castle Tavern appears to form a connecting link between the original Churchyard and the "Garden Ground" to the east. It stood in Fore Street, partly on the Glebe, partly on the Parish ground. (See G on plan.) It figures largely in the minutes of the Vestry as a source of income, a place of entertainment for the Vestry, and a bone of contention between Vestries and Vicars. In 1649 it let for £26 a year, the whole of which amount was at this time appropriated by the Parish. In the

same year the accounts record: "By money paid in full for the lease of the Castle Tavern to the Chamber of London 22nd Dec., 1649, and 5th Jan., 1650, the summe of £100." This was paid out of a fine of £150 received for the "Queene's Head." (Busby's property.)

Since 1760, a lease of this part of the ground has been regularly renewed every 14 years by the Corporation on the payment by the Parish of a fine of seven years' rental—£25 per annum—£175. The Parish sublet the ground, the profits arising therefrom being placed to the credit of the Parish Rents Account.

The next addition to the Churchyard was made probably not long before 1613, for in the City "Chamberlain's" accounts for that year there is the following entry:—

The Vicar, Churchwardens, and Parishioners of St. Giles Without Cripplegate for a piece of void ground or walk on the north part of the Citties wall there and for the rest of the ground adjoining to the wall of the Churchyard there demised to the said Vicar and Churchwardens for 49 years from Midsomer 1613. Rent £5 per annum.

The ditch, shown by Aggas' Map in 1556 as a running stream, had thus soon become a "walk." (*See C on plan.*)

Previous to 1655, there had been some re-arrangement of the leases, for in that year the following entry occurs. "On the 14th day of May 1655 there was carried out of the chest in the Quest House the sum of one hundred and four score pounds, which was paid into the Chamber of London for the lease of the Castle Tavern and Churchyard being taken for 61 years from Midsummer 1655."

In 1662, more ground was added between Crowders Well (I on plan) on the south, and the south-western part of the original Churchyard, for we read that "There shall be borrowed by the Churchwardens the sum of £100 for 6 months towards the fine of the lease of the ground by Crowders Well, for a buriall place lately granted by the City." (*See D on plan.*)

As the population increased, the need of more burying ground became urgent, especially as the Plague annually carried off hundreds of the inhabitants. In 21 years—1647 to 1667—over 28,000 burials are registered as having taken place in the Parish burial grounds. Additional ground was added, for we find on 14th June, 1664 (*see E on plan*)—

"That the Churchwardens doe carry in the £120 to the Chamber of London for the lease of the ground *behind* Crowleys (Crowthers) Well."

In January, 1665-6, orders were given to treat about houses and grounds in Churchyard Alley for enlarging the burial ground, and in October, 1666, ground in Crowder's Well Alley is reported out of lease, evidently Parish property, and is ordered to be added to the Churchyard. (*See F on plan.*)

The whole was consecrated in 1667 by the late Vicar, Dr. Dolben, now Bishop of Rochester. This part has been known since as the Green Churchyard—it is the long strip shown on the plan running south from the corner of the Bastion between the City Wall and Well Street, measuring 170 feet in length by 35 feet in breadth.

July, 1721.—The lease was renewed at £5 per annum rent, and £2 to be given to the poor.

Oct., 1667.—It is ordered, "That the fees in the Churchyard newly consecrated be the same as in the old Churchyard and that the graves be dug 6 feet deep."

In addition to the ground lying about the Church, the Parish was then in possession of two other burial grounds—one known as the Bear and Ragged Staff or the Whitecross Street burial ground, situated on the left hand side of that street, about half way between Barbican and Old Street. We cannot trace when this was consecrated, but an entry in the Burial Registers, 29th February, 1636, "buried in *our newe* Churchyard *the first*," probably refers to this ground. Previous to 1664 it must have been largely used, as in that year it was ordered "to be closed for ten years." It was not therefore available during the great Plague year. This ground was known as the Upper Churchyard, and, as will be seen by "the rates of Church Duties," the fees were lower than around the Church.

1664.—Ordered, "That any one burying in the Upper Churchyard pay a penalty of £3 to the use of the Vicar and Churchwardens of the Parish."

The other ground was called the Pest House ground, and was situated adjoining to Allen's Almshouses on the east, "nye" Old Street, and formerly called the "Irish Field." This was consecrated in 1662. In the accounts for that year occurs the following:—

Paid to Mr. Wilson for twelve pounds of biskitts at the consecrating Churchyard, 14s.

Cost of brickwork round the Churchyard, £81.

Fitting up a shelter in rainy weather, £6 10s.

Measuring the walls, 7s. 6d.

The Pest House ground was used chiefly for the burial of the very poor, and in 1665 many of the dead bodies were buried there, large pits being dug for their reception. In 1667 it was closed for seven years. The fees at this ground were very low, meanwhile the Churchwardens had power to grant free burial, at first with the proviso that the body was buried without a coffin.

Aug., 1672.—When anyone begs the burying ground of the Churchwardens, if the said persons v'll bury in a coffin he or they shall pay the full dues of burials according to the table of fees or Church duties, but if they bury in a sheet only the fees shall be remitted at the discretion of the Churchwardens.

Possibly all four Churchwardens using their discretion, caused, as the Vestry thought, too many free burials, for after the re-opening of the Churchyards in 1674, in

Feb., 1675.—It is ordered, "that only the Senior Churchwarden doe give only the ground to such persons (as above) and this to be strictly observed according to the true meaning and interest thereof."

And later in the same year it is ordered that

"Free ground only at the Pest House to such as are not able to pay the same, not meddling with, nor granting any other dues according to the former order of the Vestry."

Aug., 1683.—Ordered, "That the Pest House be closed for a month, ground to be levelled and dues at Whitecross Street to be lowered for the poor at discretion of the Churchwardens."

In 1691, the order as to coffins was rescinded, as follows:—

June, 1691.—Ordered, "That the fees for Vicar, Clark and Sexton be taken for all buried out of the Parish the same as if buried in it, except for Tindalls and Bethlem."

"That all such persons who shall hereafter be buried in the Pest House ground, for whom the fees shall be begged off and remitted shall and may be buried in coffins any order of Vestry or custom to the contrary notwithstanding."

Returning to the Churchyard adjoining the Church. This was evidently at one time open to the public and unprotected, for after the Vestry was re-organized in 1659, in September of the same year an order was made "that a paire of new gates to the lower Churchyard be forthwith made and sett upp in the most convenient place," this gateway is afterwards described as the "Great Gateway." It is the same that now stands facing Redcross Street. In 1678 a lease of the houses between it and the Church Porch was granted to John Pine (the Vestry Clerk) with liberty "to build over the Churchyard gate."

Some entries concerning the cost of the gateway:—

1660.—Carpenter, Churchyard Gate and other work done for the Parish, £14.

Plumber, 13s.

Bricks, Lyme, Tiles, Sand and Workmanship about the Churchyard Gate. £117s. 6d.

Mason, Churchyard Gate, £33.

1661.—Painter for painting the Gates, £1.

The cost of the gate was paid out of the fine received from the renewal of a lease of houses in Sugar Loaf Court.

This gate may be described as a heavy round headed arch, the spandrels being occupied by an hour glass, a scythe, Death's head and crossbones, and other emblems of mortality.

One cannot but think of what changes in men and manners it must have seen pass under its sombre portals, and what an awful baptism it received soon after its erection. Happily, burials have ceased in the Churchyard and the entrance now is to the pleasantest Churchyard in the City, instead of, as but a few years back, to the dreariest.



THE "GREAT GATEWAY," LEADING INTO ST. GILES' CHURCHYARD.

During the time of the Civil War, the Churchyard was used for military training. At the first Vestry after the re-organisation, the first entry in the Minute Book is as follows (*see pp. 162-163*):—

April, 1659.—“That the military training be discontinued in the Churchyard, but that it may be continued till Michaelmas next and no longer, provided they do nothing prejudicial to the Churchyard.”

At the same meeting it was resolved (*nem. con.*),

"That all the doors of the tenements in the little Churchyard be shut up, that there shall be no passage from them into the Churchyard."

This same trouble with the doors has occurred in our own days, but by paying a nominal rent, the Vestry grant, on sufferance, the use of a back entrance. The Vestry had constant trouble in protecting the Churchyard from encroachments of one kind or another.

In 1763, it was found that a house was built on the land just leased to the Parish by the City (near the site of the gate which had been just removed), and that it was three feet into the Churchyard beyond the plan. The Vestry were easy and allowed it to stand on the payment of a fine of £5. Various attempts have at times since been made to encroach on the Churchyard, but the constant vigilance now practised by the Vestry renders any further inroads impossible.

Returning to some of the entries in the Minute Books:—

May, 1665.—Ordered, "That no more clothes be dried in the Churchyard next the Church." And "All back doors coming out of the dwelling houses into the Churchyard be made up and no further use made of or for going in or out after Midsummer day next, the Castle Tavern alone excepted for the use of the Parish." "No boys to be allowed to go out that way."

The partition in the Churchyard to be taken down between this and Midsomer day next.

That the raine or any other water that falleth from any of the houses shall be by those that therein are concerned carried some other way.

Sept., 1670.—Ordered, "That whereas an order made in the year 1665 that all the back doors opening into the Churchyard next the Church except the backe door of the Castle Tavern for the use of the Parish, should be shut up and no passage into the said Churchyard through the same the which order hath been broken and not kept, It is therefore thought fitt and ordered again that the former order shall be observed and kept as it was first intended to the full and that the fence or pales that was by Mr. Thomas Alcocke set up at the East end of the Church be forthwith taken down and ye little Churchyard laid open to the other as hath been heretofore."

Mar. 27, 1674.—Ordered, "That whereas part of the Churchyard wall is fallen down the present securing of it from further decay and of the bricke fallen be left to the discretion of the Churchwarden."

April 6, 1674.—"That the Chw^{ns}. do forthwith treat with two or three Carpentors concerning what the charge might amount to for the fencing raleing and paleing of the Churchyard in and to make their report of the charge thereof to the next Vestry of the same."

April 22, 1674.—That the four chw^{ns}. with 2 more "doe forthwith treat and agree with workmen concerning the fencing rayleing or payleing of the Churchyard in to the best advantage and the charge thereof to be allowed in their acc^{ts}."

May 21, 1674.—"That the late Chw^{ns}. do forthwith pay unto . . . Carpenters for the fencing of the Churchyard in the summe of fortie pounds little more or less according to the agreement which was made between the Chw^{ns}. and Carpentors."

Sept., 1676.—Ordered, “That the Churchwardens do take care forthwith to remove the rales and poles in the little Churchyard and set them so close to their doors that they may but just open them.”

Feb., 1676-7.—Ordered, “That there be no back lights allowed into the little Churchyard but to continue as they are now remaining.”

March, 1686.—Ordered, “That all the back doors belonging to the Churchyard be stopt or shut up except those who have leases.”

For the purpose of keeping the Mortuary moneys in the Parish, it is ordered—

“That the Clerk do not give any certificate for the burial of any corpse which shall be buried either at Mr. Tindall’s ground [Bunhill Fields] or at Bethlem [the south-east corner of Moorfields in or adjoining the parish of St. Botolph Bishopsgate], untill he or she or they do pay the sum of 6s. 6*d.* also 12*d.* for the certificate according to the duties of the Church yard in Whitecross Street and in case the said Clerk do not observe this order he shall pay the same sum as if he had received it.”

Aug., 1703.—Ordered “That a Committee do enquire out a piece of ground for a burial place and report.”

Four years previously (September, 1699) a proposal was made to take a lease of waste ground in Butler’s Alley, in Grub Street, “to make a burial place for the dead.” Neither Committee seem to have obtained ground for the purpose, but almost every autumn the Vestry woke up to the importance of obtaining additional burying ground when, from the imperfect sanitary arrangements, Plague and fever would be most rife in the Parish.

Sept., 1703.—The Pest House is reported full.

May, 1706.—A “bone house” is ordered to be erected in the Churchyard.

May, 1707.—Ordered “That Burials in the Churchyard are to take place between the south west corner of the Church steeple and the bone house till the same ground shall be filled up six feet deep.”

July, 1710.—Five shillings to be paid for attending any corpse after ten at night.

March, 1714.—That the Churchyard be forthwith cleansed and levelled by the Churchwardens and that the Sextoness do take care to keep it clean and that the back doores into the said Church yard be railed up only that to the Castle Tavern, where a Hatch shall be allowed on condition that it be constantly kept locked.

Nov., 1721.—Ordered “That the graves be dug six feet deep where it may be done and to be filled up every night and two feet of earth to be left on the upper corpse in each grave to avoid infection.”

April 15, 1745.—“That the Churchwardens do pay for taking up and new laying all the old Gravestones and pavement on the south side of the Church in the Churchyard after the rate of 2*d.* per foot for raising and levelling the old ground and 7*d.* per foot for the new pavement in finding stone &c. and he is to use up all the old stone that shall be needful and to employ labourers to level the ground.”

Nov. 13, 1765.—“That the stone pavement in the Churchyard on the south side of the Church be taken up and relaid.”

The following scale of fees, or Church duties, taken from an original bill, printed in 1644, now in the Guildhall Library may be found interesting. An indication of the times is apparent in the first line :—

GILES . CRIPLEGATE.

The Particulars of the Rates of Church-Duties Agreed upon at a generall Meeting of the Parish The fourth of November 1644.

For Burialls in the upper Churchyard - - - -	00 01 10
Whereof to the Minister -	00 00 06
To the Clerke - - - -	00 00 04
To the Sexton for the Bell and Gravemaking - - -	00 00 08
To the Parish - - - -	00 00 04
For Burialls in the lower Churchyard with a Coffin or without a Coffin for any above seven yeares of age - - - - -	00 05 00
If under seven yeares of age with a Coffin or without a Coffin - - - - -	00 04 00
Out of the aforesaid five shillings or foure shillings, to the Minister that doth officiate - - -	00 01 00
To the Clerk - - - - -	00 00 04
To the Sexton - - - - -	00 00 04
To the Gravemaker - - -	00 00 04
And the remainder to the Parish which is 3 shillings and 2 shillings.	
For Burialls in the Church for any above seven yeares of age - - - - -	01 00 00
For any under seven yeares of age - - - - -	13 4
Out of the abovesaid twenty shillings or thirteene shillings and foure pence There is to the Poore - -	6 8
To the Minister - - - -	1 0
To the Clerk - - - - -	4
To the Sexton - - - - -	4
To the Gravemaker - - -	4
And the remainder to the Parish which is Foure shillings Eight pence, or Eleaven shillings Foure pence.	
For the attendance before the Corps to the Church or Church-yard - - - -	00 03 00
To the Minister - - - -	2 00
To the Clark - - - - -	8
To the Sexton - - - - -	4

And whosoever please may have the Minister, Clerk, or Sexton alone.	
For any of the clothes that cover the Corps of the dead, they are freely lent without any pay whatsoever. Only what you please to give the Sexton for his labour to bring it.	
For burying of Strangers that are brought out of other Parishes the Duties are double.	
For the Belles to the Sexton as formerly; that is to say, for the second bell 4 <i>d</i> . for the third bell 6 <i>d</i> . for the fourth bell 8 <i>d</i> . for the fifth bell 10 <i>d</i> . for the sixth bell 12 <i>d</i> .	
For the Belles to the Parish as formerly; that is to say, for Knells: The Knell of the second bell 2 <i>s</i> . whereof to the Sexton 4 <i>d</i> . The knell of the third bell 3 <i>s</i> . whereof to the Sexton 6 <i>d</i> . The knell of the fourth Bell 4 <i>s</i> . whereof to the Sexton 10 <i>d</i> . The knell of the sixt bell 6 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> . whereof to the Sexton 12 <i>d</i> .	
For Weddings with Baines -	00 02 00
For the Minister - - - -	1 0
To the Clerke - - - - -	8
To the Sexton - - - - -	4
For Weddings with Licenses -	6 8
Whereof to the Poore - - -	3 4
To the Minister - - - - -	1 8
To the Clerk - - - - -	1 0
To the Sexton - - - - -	8
The Clerks wages quarterly for every House - - - -	1
Here follow the names of the four Churchwardens beginning with Major Robert Maynwaring and 26 Vestrymen beginning with John Great, Debuty.	
London: Printed by Tho. Paine in Goldsmiths Alley—1644.	

The fees were altered from time to time, and the Churchwardens were allowed to use discretion in the matter.

In addition to the burials in the Churchyards, numerous persons were buried in the Church. Several instances are given under head of Monuments. Many persons of rank and distinction were buried within the walls. The majority of those whose names are mentioned in the extracts from the Registers were buried here, and it would seem that as the burial ground became scarce outside, so there was a greater pressure for burial within the Church. As has been shown, the fee for burial in 1644 was £1, of this a noble (6s. 8d.) was for the poor.

						£	s.	d.
1648.—	Abated for 24 Burialls in the Church	24 Nobles (£8)	to be given					
	to the poore remaineth	-	-	-	-	35	2	8
1657.—	Paid to the poore out of the Buriall Monies	-	-	-	-	17	0	0
1659.—	Paid to the poor out of the Burials in the Church	-	-	-	-	15	0	0
1660.—	Paid to the poor out of burialls	-	-	-	-	16	6	8
1661.—	Do.	do.	-	-	-	12	16	8
1662.—	Do.	do.	-	-	-	16	3	4
1663.—	Do.	do.	-	-	-	15	0	0
1664.—	Do.	do.	-	-	-	16	13	4
1665.—	Do.	do.	-	-	-	50	6	8
1666.—	Do.	do.	-	-	-	23	13	4
1667.—	Do.	do.	-	-	-	28	6	8
1668.—	Do.	do.	-	-	-	44	13	4

The Parish paid for the tiles and tiling of the graves, and from these entries in the accounts we can ascertain the numbers buried in the Church. In twenty years—from the year 1648 to 1668—1,200 burials took place. Over 180 in the Plague year. Interments in the Church—as in the case of the Churchyard—continued to be made almost down to our own times, but in reduced numbers, as the fees were raised. We can but picture and shudder at the awful charnel house below our bright and pleasant Church.

The fees for burial in the Church were always considerably higher than outside, and penalties and restrictions were constantly being enforced for the purpose of preventing too many burials, and for obtaining money for the Poor.

From an entry in the Minute Book, 28th September, 1665, it would appear that the custom of burying the dead under the pews of the Church had been introduced, for it is ordered—

That “No one be buried under a pew in the Church unless the parties concerned at their own proper cost and charges lay the same down again.”

How full of danger this was may be seen from this, when only the chancel was tiled, and perhaps the aisles; and one can hardly wonder at plague and fever being rife when, without any pavement or boarding, there lay a corpse—possibly dead of a most infectious disease—within a few inches of the feet of the worshipper in a tall and stuffy pew.

In 1666 an additional restriction, in the shape of payment, is enforced, for it was ordered “that no person be buried in the Church but the knell of the great bell be paid for whether itte be rung or not.”

In 1673 it is ordered “that 6s. 8d. extra be charged for burying under a pew, and the Churchwardens to be responsible for the pew being replaced.” Possibly when this was left to the deceased’s friends it was not properly done.

In February, 1674, the fees were raised to 25s. In 1705 the fees were raised to £5; and again in 1764 it was ordered “that the fee for burying under a pew in the Church to be paid by a parishioner of this parish from henceforth be £10.”

Although the fee for burial in the Church was subsequently raised to £18, numbers of interments still took place about the end of the last century, for the side aisles are completely paved with stones of that time. To some extent they continued to the middle of the present century. In 1828 it was ordered “that all interments within the Church be in lead or other metal coffins, £15 to be paid to the Parish, exclusive of Vicar’s or other fees.”

On 24th September, 1819, the following protest was made by the Vestry (25 members, in addition to the Churchwardens, being present) and ordered to be sent to the public papers, and to be circulated throughout the Parish :—

“In consequence of a vote of censure having been passed on the Churchwardens of this Parish at a meeting *held in the Churchyard* on Monday last for taking into consideration the conduct of the Magistrates and Yeomanry at Manchester [the Peterloo ‘Massacre’] on 16th August last to which the most extensive circulation has been given, This Vestry feel themselves compelled to state that the entire custody and preservation of the property of the Church is invested in the hands of the Churchwardens for the time being with the co-operation of the Vicar, and that they consider it extremely improper at any time for the Church to be used for the purpose of political discussion, the more particularly so when anonymous notices of the meeting had been so publicly and industriously advertised and placarded without the knowledge of the Churchwardens, which together with the circumstance of such meeting being held on a Monday was calculated to draw together an immense number of persons indiscriminately and consequently be the means of materially damaging the Church and the property contained therein—

"This Vestry consider 'that the Churchwardens have acted with strict propriety and with a conscientious discharge of their duty, in not permitting the Church to be used on that occasion and that they are justly entitled to the approval and thanks of this Vestry which are hereby offered to them.'"

On 8th August, 1822, the following orders were made:—

"That the Sexton is to look carefully after the Churchyard and the Parish Beadle to attend to all funerals therein for the preservation of good order."

"That children are to be prevented from playing in the Churchyard."

"That those inhabitants of the Parish who have hitherto had access thereto by sufferance, be particularly requested to guard against any complaint; or the doorways into the Churchyard will be stopped up."

"That all Cattle or Poultry found in the Churchyard will be immediately taken to the Green Yard."

"These orders to be sent to all persons having doors or windows into the Churchyard."

Mar. 27, 1826.—"That the Churchyard door in Well Street and the Churchyard door in Fore Street be opened every Sunday morning half an hour before Divine Service and to be kept open half an hour after such service."

Many inhabitants of the Parish still remember interments taking place both in the Church and in the Churchyard.

From engravings in the Guildhall Library we can picture the general appearance of the Churchyard during the first half of the present century. Paths intersect it in all directions, without, however, there being any thoroughfare. The crowded appearance of the tomb stones give the beholder a clearer idea of its being "God's Acre" than at the present time when all the stones are levelled, and the ground covered with earth—and shrubs and flowers grow luxuriantly over the remains of the dead.

A few years after the cessation of interments the ground was levelled, and care taken to give the place a more cheerful appearance—but for some time after it was noted as being the most dismal Churchyard in the City. Of late years this has been changed, and it is now universally acknowledged to be one of the most pleasant and cheerful. As has been noted, there was no thoroughfare through the Churchyard—in fact, the gate in Fore Street (the only entrance in recent times) was only opened for a few hours on Sundays, and closed the rest of the week. But in 1877, in consequence of the opening of "Australian Avenue," and the greater extension of the Wood Street trade into the Parish, it became desirable to make a path across the Churchyard from Monkwell Street and its vicinity. The Vestry put themselves in communication with the City

authorities with the result that in 1880 a passage was made through the Churchyard with entrances in Fore Street, Jewin Street, and Monkwell Street, as shown by dotted lines on plan of Churchyard. The Parish now pays to the City Chamberlain the nominal annual rent of £5 for the portions of the Churchyard originally leased from the Corporation.

A portion of the Old City Wall in the form of a Bastion, stands at the South-west corner of the Churchyard, and is in an excellent state of preservation. It measures nearly 36 feet across, and, though originally much higher, stands now, in consequence of the filling in of the City Ditch and the raising of the Churchyard, only 12 feet above the level of the surrounding ground. In appearance it is strikingly picturesque and is a constant source of interest to the antiquary.







THE POOR OF THE PARISH.

THE Parish of St. Giles from the earliest times has had, perhaps more than any other City Parish, "the Poor always in it." No doubt, as was the case in the rest of the kingdom, their necessities were provided for by the many monastic and religious institutions until the suppression of these by Henry VIII. From that time, in spite of the earlier attempts in Elizabeth's reign to provide relief, down to the great Act of Parliament of the 43rd year of her reign, the poor had a sorry time of it.

But when the above-named Act came into force we find that not only were the householders of the Parish regularly assessed to the relief of the Poor, but that richer Parishes had the duty cast upon them to assess themselves for the assistance of poorer Parishes. This was called the "rate in aid" clause. The parish of St. Giles was assisted for several years by the comparatively rich Parish of St. Margaret, Lothbury. In Dr. Freshfield's book on the affairs of that Parish, we find the following entries:—

1656.—Paid to Cripplegate Collectores and Churchwardens, £8 10s.

1659.—Paid to Cripplegate per annum, £8 10s.

1661.—Paid to Cripplegate Parish, £8 10s.

1663.—Paid more to Cripplegate, £9 3s. 4d.

In the year 1659 St. Margaret's collection for the Poor amounted to £43 5s. 4d., of which £8 10s.—a large proportion of the total amount—went to Cripplegate. There can be no doubt but that from the time of the passing of the Act in 1601 until the year 1725 at least, Cripplegate was assisted by other City Parishes. An "Augmentation" List for St. Giles is given in "Maitland's London" (edition 1739), as follows:—

Christ Church - - - -	£4	St. Mary le Bow - - -	£10
St. Dionis Back Church - -	8	St. Mary Magd., Milk Street -	3
St. Dunstan in West - - -	10	St. Michael's, Bassishaw - -	6
St. Gregory's - - - -	8	St. Michael's, Cornhill - -	10
St. Lawrence Jewry - - -	5	St. Mildred's, Bread Street -	5
St. Margaret's, Lothbury - -	3	St. Nicholas, How - - -	2
St. Mary, Aldermanbury - -	6	St. Olave, Hart Street - -	3
St. Mary, Hill - - - -	4		

The Act 43rd Elizabeth was the foundation of all future attempts at dealing with the relief of the Poor; and the particular clause quoted on next page, seems to be the first attempt at equalising the Poor Rate.

That if two Justices of the Peace do perceive that the inhabitants of any Parish are not able to levy among themselves sufficient sums of money for the Relief of their Poor, The said Justices shall and may tax rate and assess as aforesaid any other of the Parishes, to pay such sums of money to the Churchwarden and Overseers of the said poor Parish.

In the City Parishes the Lord Mayor and another Justice discharged this duty. The assessments were under the charge of the Overseers, and in the case of St. Giles are not entered in the Churchwardens' accounts, but in the minutes of 1693 it is—

Ordered, "That 20s. and not more yearly be allowed to the overseers of the poor for and towards their charges and expenses in collecting and gathering the *augmentation* money out of the City."

1718.—Committee appointed to assist in getting the monies yet unpaid in last year's *augmentation* roll.

From the Churchwardens' accounts we obtain glimpses of other means of relieving the necessities of the Poor—such were the "Mortuary" and "Pall" monies, and charitable bequests.

The Mortuary money was the net balance of the Burial dues. After the Minister, Clerk, and Sexton had received their fees, and all expenses in keeping up the Burial ground had been met, the balance was entered in the Grand Account as "Mortuaries," and if in that account the receipts were greater than the expenditure, the balance was given to the Poor. The amount so given was therefore somewhat precarious.

1659.—Ordered, "That the balance of [the Churchwardens' accounts] £40 2s. 7d. be divided "considering the present necessity of the poor."

1660.—"The balance [on the Churchwardens' accounts] of £50 to be taken out of the Chest and divided among the necessitous poor, £25 to the Freedom and £25 to the Lordship."

The following extracts from the early Churchwardens' accounts, show the amount then received from the Hearse Cloth and Pall monies :—

1663.—£14 15s. 6d. From 16th June, 1664, to 22nd December, 1665, £3 9s. 6d., the amount is small, due probably to the fact that, during the Plague time the "trappings of woe" were of little account, the reality being so great. From December, 1665, to March, 1666, the amount increased, probably owing to the collection of some arrears, £13 5s. 6d.; for the remainder of 1666, £11 5s. 0d., 1667, £16 4s. 0d. 1668, £19 9s. 0d. So it will be seen that Hearse Cloths and Pall monies were for a considerable time a fruitful source of revenue in aid of the Poor. The minutes of the Vestry on the subject will be found interesting :—

June 3, 1659.—Resolved "That there be a very grand hearse cloth bought, the cloth not exceeding twenty shillings a yard."

1660.—Paid the Sexton for the Hearse Cloth he bought £3 9s. 6d.

Nov. 23, 1677.—Ordered, “That the Churchwardens take care forthwith to buy a new hearse cloth, and them that make use of it to pay the sum of two shillings and sixpence.”

1681.—“Mr. Thomas Bell, surgeon having left a velvet pall to the Parish to be let out at funerals the Vestry order ‘that the said pall shall not be let out to any person or persons whatsoever under ten shillings.’”

Oct. 12, 1685.—It was ordered “That if any person make use of any pall either in our Parish Church or Churchyard, except our Parish Pall, he, she or they shall pay ten shillings more for the use of the poor of the Parish if in the Church, and eight shillings more if in the Churchyard above the common dues.”

The Vestry in endeavouring to promote this, to us a novel mode of raising money for the Poor, put out an elaborate set of fees and resorted to advertising their Palls.

Oct. 26, 1686.—“Ordered by the Generall consent of the Gentlemen of the Vestry that a rate or prize shall be laid out or set upon each velvet Pall as followeth:—

“The Pall that Mr. Tho^s. Bell dec^d. left, the profitts thereby arising is for the use of the Poor as likewise all the rest are which said pall shall not be lett out to any person or persons whatsoever under 10s. each time and as for—

“The 4 New Velvet Palls which was bought by the Churchwardens and Ancients of this Parish with money which was freely given by the Minister, Churchwardens, Ancient Vestrymen and other Gentlemen of the said pish. for a further Ogmentation or relief of the Poor therein, The rate or prizes of each of the said four new Palls shall not be let out to any person or persons whatsoever under 10s., the next Pall to that being something lesser the rate or Prize shall be 8s., the next to that for children about four or five years 5s. and the least Pall for younger children not under 2s 6d.

Ordered, “That Mr. Nathan Green Churchwarden take care there be about one thousand tickets printed forthwith, and that the rates or prices of each pall be expressed thereon and that Thomas Charlye disperse the said tickets amongst the inhabitants of this parish on his collecting the tithes for Dr. Fowler, whereby the said inhabitants may be generally informed where to have velvet palls without going further for them.”

“Ordered that the rates or Prizes of the Black hearse cloathes shall be as followeth:—

“The new largest and Biggest cloaths shall not be let out to any person or persons whatsoever under 2s. 6d. and the next new cloth being not altogether so bigg or large as the other shall not be lett out under 2s. and as for the former best cloth which used to be lett out at 2s. 6d. being now very much worne shall be let out at 1s. 6d. and the other cloath at 1s. and as for the two other cloathes being the oldest and worst, to be lent gratis to these poor people who are not able to pay for the use of any of the others.”

Ordered, “That there be one shilling deducted out of the new largest and biggest Velvet Pall every time and so often as there shall be occasion for the same to be made use of, likewise 6d. out of the 8s. pall and the like out of the 5s. Pall to lay up in Banke whereby to raise a stock for Provision of more new velvet Palls when occasion requires and that John Pine Vestry Clerk do receive the said summe for the use above-said and that there be a booke bought forthwith for the entrance of the same and for the entrance of the names of those gentlemen and what each person gave freely towards the buying of the said new velvet Palls and the charges thereof to be allowed Mr. N. G. in his Grand Accounts.

That Mary Ayres, the late sexton's widow do receive for her care trouble and pains in looking after the Palls viz. 1s. out of the new largest and biggest velvet Pall every time and so often as the said pall shall be made use of alsoe sixpence out of each of the other three palls when and so often as they or any of them shall be made use of.

Mar. 28, 1690.—Whereas by a late order of Vestry dat: 26th October 1686 it was (*inter alia*) ordered “That the Velvett Pall which M^r. Tho^s. Bell dec^d. gave and left the Parish should not be let out at any time under 10s. and likewise the best and largest Pall of the four Parish Palls not under 10s. and the next to it not under 8s. as by the said recited order may appear. And whereas there are now severall persons within this Parish who keepe velvet Palls and let the same out at rates lower than and under the rates of the above mentioned Palls which very much hinders the Profit and income of the said Palls and so consequently becomes disadvantageous and detrimental to the Poor of this Parish for the redressing of which it is therefore ordered “that the s^d. recited order in every clause and thing wherein it relates to the above s^d. Palls shall from henceforward be void null and of none effect. And for the future that the two Palls above mentioned to be let at 10s. each Pall, shall either and each of them be lett out at any rate or price under 10s. and not under 6s. at the discretion of the Sexton for the time being of the Parish, and the said Palls above mentioned to be let at 8s. shall be let out at any rate or prize under 8s. and not under 5s. at the discretion likewise of the said Sexton for the tyme being.

“The Sexton to keep a register of name surname place of abode together with rates prices day of the month and year of all and every such Person or Persons to whom the Palls shall be let out. And to give an account monthly or oftener if req^d. to the Vestrymen and Churchwardens for the time being, who shall do and make satisfaction to the Sexton at their discretion.”

This source of Revenue probably had been overdriven and had now reached its height, for the minutes say:—

April 6, 1691.—The Vestry order that “The 5s. pall be let out at 3s. a time and the 2s. 6d. pall be let out at 2s. a time and if any other pall than the parish pall shall be used for any resident in the Parish, double burial dues shall be paid, tickets to be printed and circulated announcing this.”

By this time the Palls seem to scarcely cover their cost:—

April 11, 1705.—That the Churchwardens do receive of M^r. Barnsley the Clerke and that he doe pay them the money received by him for the use of the palls towards reimbursing them what the same cost them to their going out.

The Parish now retires from the business in Palls:—

Feb. 15, 1742.—That four of the Velvet Palls be sold by the Churchwardens for the most money that can be got for them and that the second best Pall be sent to the Workhouse and kept there for the use of the Poor people that shall be buried therefrom.

Another source of revenue for supplying the wants of the poor was in the Fines, received from parishioners, who, on being duly elected, refused to serve the various public offices. This was very intermittent. In some years, such as in 1698 and 1712, a large sum was received, and again occasionally for several successive years little or nothing from this source.

Returning to assessments under the Poor Law, there is in the Bodleian Library a roll of eight membranes, being an assessment for the relief

of the poor for the precincts of Red and Whitecross Streets, in the Ward of Cripplegate Without, for three months, after the rate of £143 14s. 6d. per month from 25th December, 1682.

1691.—“The Freedom part of the Parish had the right of placing poor persons in the Weavers’ Almshouses at Shoreditch, and the Vestry bind themselves to keep the Poor of Shoreditch free of all expense for these poor people beyond the charity of the Weavers’ Company.”

The Poor were lodged in some of the Parish houses; in 1692 they were in Sworder’s rents in Fore Street.

June 20, 1699.—£50 voted for stock to set the poor to work.

April 1, 1700.—Ordered, “That any bedding that shall happen to come into the hands of the Churchwardens or Overseers, of or from any poor people deceasing shall be sent to the Workhouse in Beech Lane to be disposed of to the use of the Poor thereof as the assistants of the said Workhouse shall appoint.”

April 23, 1700.—“That the overseers and directors of the workhouse in Beech Lane do distribute the money received from the overseers of the Parish weekly to the poor people employed in the said workhouse.”

April 6, 1702.—Ordered, “That the £50 [borrowed to set the poor to work] and interest be paid and discharged out of the profits of the workhouse.”

In 1710, the Parish owned some houses in Plow Court, Barbican, and a question seems to have arisen whether the poor should be lodged in them, as, if so, a report naively remarks, “there will be no occasion to repair them, otherwise there will be.”

July, 1712.—It was ordered, “That the present Churchwarden Mr. Carr, take care that two persons may lie together in one bed and that two beds may be put into one room where they are large enough for two beds.”

An exceedingly vivid picture of the state of the Parish and the relief given to the Poor is shown in the Churchwardens’ Accounts of 1725 and 1742; the details of the payments are painfully clear, and in many instances unfit for publication.

In the minutes of the Vestry for September, 1713, we find the following:—

Ordered, “That the several persons hereafter named be severally rated weekly to the poor as follows”:—

Joshua Wilson	-	-	4d.	Thomas Greenwood	-	-	2d.
Elisha Coysh	-	-	4d.	John Skinner	-	-	2d.
Martha Maddon	-	-	4d.	Dennis Gutteridge	-	-	2d.
Madam Hope	-	-	4d.	Mary Thorne	-	-	1½d.
Elizabeth Collier	-	-	4d.	Widow Tarret	-	-	1d.
Edward Hutchnor	-	-	4d.	Robert Baker	-	-	1d.
John Willis	-	-	3d.	John Davis	-	-	1d.
Charles Page	-	-	2½d.	John Hunt	-	-	1d.
John Irne	-	-	2½d.	Widow Furney	-	-	1d.
Samuel Kintal	-	-	2d.	Samuel Swift	-	-	1d.

These were probably “new comers” into the parish.

Sept., 1713.—Ordered, “That the Churchwarden be desired to acquaint Mr. Justice Feast that though he be raised 9*d.* per week to the poor rate yet it is left to himself what he will please to pay.”

In May, 1714.—It is ordered, “That Apothecaries and Surgeons pay 5*d.* per week poor rates.”

Between this time and 1730, a difference in the mode of assessing takes place, for we find in

April, 1730.—“A Rate is ordered to be made of 1*s.* 6*d.* in the Pound on land and tenements, and 5*s.* on every £100 personal estate, be levied for the relief of the poor.”

April 7, 1714.—Ordered, “That a workhouse be provided.”

1721.—Ordered, “That rooms in Sugar Loafe Court be put in order to receive the poor.”

A regular Workhouse was established in Sugar Loaf Court, Moor Lane, in 1725, and the following extracts from the Minutes of the Vestry are given in connection with it:—

Jan., 1738-9.—That in future Mr. Rossal be paid £10 a year for reading prayers twice a week at the workhouse and that he do attend in his Canonical robes.

June 19, 1739.—Ordered, “That the Churchwardens do pay Thornborrow 5*s.* being his bills for phisik administered to the late Master and present Mistress of the Workhouse [first established in 1725]. But that in future the Master and the Mistress of the Workhouse shall be deemed and taken as a part of the household and shall not be paid for separately but be included in the salary paid to the Apothecary.

Aug. 20, 1740.—“Any person willing to be employed in setting the poor of this Parish to work in the Workhouse and to reside there at a yearly salary may give in proposals.”

The Vestry approved of the proposals of S. D. who is hereby elected Arts Master, to keep the poor to work in the Workhouse, and he is to reside there, and is to have for and in lieu of his salary, one-fourth part of the neate produce of the labour of the said poor, and one-fourth part of the wages of such as shall go out to work if the Committee shall at any time think proper to send any of them out for that purpose.

Sept. 10, 1740.—A tender was accepted to supply the workhouse with good wether mutton at 1*s.* 10*d.* a stone, Ox beef the best at 17*d.* a stone, stickings at 13*d.* a stone and two legs and one shin of beef weekly at 2*s.* 8*d.* a stone.

June, 1742.—The Workhouse Apothecary's salary was raised to £40 per annum on the great increase of the poor—ordered that it be now lessened to £30, number of poor being now much decreased.

June 22, 1748.—An advertisement be inserted in the public papers that any person or persons that are willing to undertake the maintenance of the poor in the workhouse belonging to this Parish for one year may have the use of the said house with the goods utensils and fixtures therein and may deliver their proposals in writing to the Churchwardens or Vestry Clerk for that purpose.

Nothing seems to have come of this—as on May 12th, 1749, the following entry occurs:—

“The Workhouse Committee to contract for Bread, Meat, and other things required.”

A new Workhouse was built in 1758, and the cost was ordered to be £1,200.

In March, 1783, the "Farming" of the Poor again comes up for consideration and in June it is ordered "that the poor be 'Farmed,' and proposals advertised for." The Vestry to meet on 3rd July. On that date the Vestry decide "that the proposals be not opened and that the order be not confirmed."

Coming nearer our own times we find the Workhouse in full operation in Moor Lane, in 1833. Much discussion took place as to its efficient management, and a report was brought up showing the number and condition of the Inmates and work done by them. The report which is contained in a Book in the Guildhall Library concerning the affairs of the Parish, is as follows :—

49	Paupers	above	70	years	of	age.
53	"	"	60	"	"	"
24	"	"	50	"	"	"
13	"	"	40	"	"	"
30	"	between	20	and	40	years of age.
21	"	Children.				

The work done by them in six months is as follows :—

Shirts and Shifts made for Warehouses	-	-	1,580.
Jackets and Frocks	"	"	60.
Cotton wound into Balls	-	-	2,998 lbs.
Horse-hair sorted and opened for the Trade	-	-	13,554 "
Oakum picked	-	-	728 "

The funds left by various charitable donors were distributed on All-hallows' Day and Good Friday, and consisted of complete suits of wearing apparel for both men and women. Doles of coal and bread, and also of small sums of money were paid, in some cases weekly, in others monthly. The complete account of the cost of the gifts for the two days named, is contained in the earliest existing Churchwarden's book: the following is a verbatim copy :—

PROVISION FOR THE POOR AT ALHOLLANTIDE 1651.

	£	s.	d.
Item, payd to Bartho: Webb for 5 wt broad cloths at £6 per cloth	-	30	0 0
Item, payd for two whit Carseys at forty nine shillings p ^r peece	-	4	18 0
Item, payd to M ^{rs} . Powell for dying the 5 broad cloths and two carsyes	-	5	0 0
Item, payd to M ^{rs} . Powell for dressing the broad cloaths and Carsyes	-	3	14 0
Item, payd for 6 peeces of black bayes at 11 ^s . p. peece	-	3	6 0
Item, payd for cutting out the gownes	-	0	3 0
Item, payd for the taylors breakfasts	-	0	1 7
Item, payd for 25 ells of cannus for the gowns at 11 ^d . p ^r ell	-	1	2 11
Item, payd for making 34 mens and women's gowns at 2/ p. peece	-	3	8 0
Item, payd for making 20 childrens coates at 8 ^d . p. peece	-	0	13 4
Item, payd for buttons tape, and hookes and eyes for the gownes and coates	-	0	5 6
Item, payd for 194 ells of lockrum at 10 ¹ / ₂ ^d . p ^r ell	-	8	9 7

	£	s.	d.
Item, payd more for 12 ells of lockrum at 10½ ^d . p. ell - - -	0	10	6
Item, payd to the woemen for cutting out the shirts and smocks - - -	0	3	0
Item, payd for the woemens breakfasts - - -	0	2	0
Item, payd for making 72 shirtes & smockes at 4 ^d . p. peece - - -	1	4	0
Item, payd to M ^r . Brackstone for 20 pr of stockings at 22 ^d . p. pr - - -	1	16	8
Item, payd to M ^r . Baugh for 20 pr of shues at 2/6 p. pr. - - -	2	10	0
Item, payd to M ^r . Kelly for a sermon uppon alhollan day 50/ viz ^t the guift of M ^r . Langley 40/; the guift of M ^r . Mason 7 ^s . 4 ^d . and the guift of M ^r . Day 2 ^s . 8 ^d .—in all 50 ^s . - - -	2	10	0
Item, payd to the Sexton as a guift the same day viz ^t the guift of M ^r . Langley 2/6; the guift of M ^r . Mason 20 ^d .; and the guift of M ^r . Day 10 ^d .; in all 5/ - - -	0	5	0
Item, payd the overplus of M ^r . Langley's money to several poore people whose names are entered in the booke for that accompte - - -	16	0	0

PROVISION FOR THE POOR ON GOOD FRIDAY.

Item, payd for cutting out the gownes for the poor for good friday of the remainder of the cloth that was left at alhollantide - - -	0	3	0
Item, payd to Tho: Wilson for 2 peeces of bayes @ 11 ^d . p. peece - - -	1	2	0
Item, payd for the taylors breakfast - - -	0	1	6
Item, payd for making 18 gowns at 2/ p. peece - - -	1	16	0
Item, payd for 3 gownes ready made to make up the number - - -	1	10	0
Item, payd for hookes and eyes and tape for the gownes - - -	0	1	6
Item, payd for 11 ells and a halfe of Cannus at 11 ^d . p. ell for y ^e gownes - - -	0	10	6
Item, payd to Willi Bowyer for 4 peeces of lockrum conteyning 207 ells at 10½ ^d . p. ell - - -	9	1	0
Item, payd to the women for cutting out the shirts and smockes - - -	0	3	0
Item, payd for their breakfast - - -	0	2	0
Item, payd for making 72 shirts & smockes at 4 ^d . p. peece - - -	1	4	0
Item, payd to M ^r . Brackstone for 40 p ^r . of stockings @ 22 ^d . p. pr. - - -	3	13	4
Item, payd to M ^r . Branch for 4 bibles at 6/ p. peece - - -	1	4	0
Item, payd more for 6 testaments at 3/ p. peece - - -	0	18	0

At one time these bequests were much more numerous than at present—many having disappeared, and small ones merged into the larger. A manuscript in the British Museum, dated 1686, contains a list of 280 different Charities connected with St. Giles, Cripplegate, mostly bequeathed for the use of the Poor—many of these being for sums below £2 yearly value. At the present time by far the greater portion of the annual income of the Parish Charities (about £7,000)—managed by the Joint Estate Trustees for St. Giles and St. Luke, and £700 by the Separate Estate Trustees of St. Giles—is expended in indirect methods of benefiting those for whom it was originally intended. The provisions for this purpose are contained in two schemes of the Charity Commissioners, both dated 21st December, 1877, regulating the bulk of the public charities. These are about to undergo revision at the hands of the Commissioners, under the powers of the City of London Parochial Charities Act, 1883, by which extensive changes will be made.

In addition to the legal relief of the poor, the main agencies in the Parish for giving them assistance, arising from the public charities or otherwise, are :—

1.—“STAINES’ ALMSHOUSE CHARITY,” founded and endowed in 1789, by Mr. Staines (afterwards Alderman Sir William Staines), one of the Common Councilmen for the Ward. This Charity now maintains seven Alms-people in the Alms-house at Tottenham, each having an allowance of £2 per month, and two tons of coals per annum. In addition there are six females and four males, out-door pensioners, receiving, in varying amounts individually, a sum of £5 11s. 8d. per month. Candidates for this Charity must have been resident householders of the Parish.

2.—The “BEQUEST PENSIONERS” number eleven, ten females and one male, receiving 5/6 per week each. These are the survivors of the recipients of the doles given before the schemes of 1877 took effect.

3.—“THE CRIPPLEGATE PENSIONERS.” In the Separate Estates Scheme of 1877, provision is made for the payment out of the Trust to not than less twenty, nor more than twenty-four poor persons of either sex, of good character, sixty years old at least (unless specially incapacitated by accident from earning their living), residents in the Parish, who have not received parochial relief for one year previous to their election. At the present time there are sixteen females, and six males, receiving £25 per annum each.

4.—“SIR BENJAMIN MADDOX’S and PALMER’S GIFT.” The former giving a pension of £14 to one poor woman, and the latter £8 per annum to another. These are also survivors of old modes of distribution.

5.—The Charity of Ann Mills (1701) and Richard Mills (1720) known as “MILLS GIFTS” is under the management of the Trustees, Mr. W. Bassingham, Mr. H. J. Felton, Mr. J. B. Moreland and Mr. E. R. Allen. The two former represent St. Giles, and distribute to necessitous inhabitants of the Parish, tickets for bread and coal. At the present time, about 170 persons receive, on the first day of every month, a ticket for eight half-quartern loaves, and in the winter months, 2 cwt. of coal; in the summer this is reduced to 1 cwt. This Charity especially is wisely managed and has proved most useful.

6.—“THE PROVIDENT FUND” inculcates, as its name implies, habits of economy and thrift. It was established in 1879, and is managed by The Separate Estate Trustees. This body allows a grant of £200

per annum to the Fund. Sums of money not exceeding 1s. per week, are received at the Quest House, every Monday morning. At the end of a year, 33 per cent. has been added to the amount deposited. Orders are then given (to the extent of the deposit and bonus) for supplying the holders with articles of wearing apparel or for domestic use. These orders are readily honoured by tradesmen in the neighbourhood, whether in the Parish or not. This Fund takes the place of the former annual distribution of clothes on All Saints' Day, the accounts for which are mentioned elsewhere.

7.—Several bequests have been made for Apprentices. These have been merged into the Separate Gift Estates, the Trustees of which are allowed by the Schemes of 1877 to expend £150 per annum for apprenticing children who shall have attended the Cripplegate Boys' School, or Lady Holles' School for Girls, for a preceding period of not less than three years. The Trustees are also at liberty to expend £5 on a suitable outfit for each apprentice, and to expend a further sum, not exceeding £20, in making a grant to any deserving apprentice upon the expiration of his term of apprenticeship, in purchasing tools and other implements of a calling. This Charity has been much appreciated by poor parents residing in the Parish, enabling them to give their children a good start in the race of life.

Besides the Charities already noticed, there are two institutions in the Parish that cannot be classed with the Charities already mentioned, as they are chiefly supported by voluntary contributions—viz.: "THE CRIPPLEGATE PENSION SOCIETY," and "THE METROPOLITAN DISPENSARY." The first was established in 1828 for the relief of decayed male and female persons. Candidates for the pensions must be at least 60 years of age, and have resided within the Parish for a period of ten years, and not have received parochial relief during that time. As vacancies occur, elections take place, preference always being given to those who have at some time subscribed to the funds of the Society.

A subscription from any person of 12s. per year constitutes a Governor, or a donation of £5 5s., a Life Governor of the Society. In 1887 there were 67 Life Governors, and 148 Annual Subscribers. Its affairs are managed by a Board consisting of a President—usually the Alderman of the Ward—three Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Honorary Secretary, and a Committee of thirty-two Directors. The revenue of the Society is derived as follows :—

- 1.—Interest on an investment of £1,000.
- 2.—Donation from St. Giles Parochial Charities.
- 3.—Annual and Life Governors' Subscriptions.
- 4.—Proceeds of an Annual Entertainment.

Monthly meetings are held at the Quest House, when the pensioners attend (unless incapacitated through illness) to receive their pensions—which is for males, £1 14s. 4d. per month; and for females, £1 5s. 8d. per month. There are now 11 males and 10 females in receipt of these amounts.

The METROPOLITAN DISPENSARY and Charitable Fund, Fore Street, was instituted in 1779.

From an account compiled by Mr. W. Clements (for many years a Trustee of the Institution), the leading features were originally as follows:—

1.—“A Society for visiting the sick poor at their own habitations, for which purpose visitors were regularly appointed to explore the abodes of sickness and destitution, and administer pecuniary relief, as well as judicious advice and consolation founded on Christian principles.”

2.—“A Medical Dispensary where, in addition to the advantage of a resident medical officer, the attendance of a physician or surgeon was daily afforded, and the sick poor who were recommended by Subscribers obtained most efficient medical aid, and were supplied with medicines from the Dispensary. And those patients who were unable to attend were visited by one of the medical gentlemen at their own habitation.”

3.—“It provided the necessary attendance for poor married women of good character in their confinement, and afforded them such other assistance as in their critical circumstances they might require.”

Of late years the tendency has been to increase the medical part of the work, deputing to the “STRANGERS' AID SOCIETY” the distribution of monetary help. For this purpose the sum of ten guineas is usually voted to that Society at the annual meeting of subscribers; and also a like sum to the “MATERNITY SOCIETY.”

Though many of the poor householders, for whom the Charity was first established, have left the Parish, their place has been more than filled by the many hundreds of both male and female workers employed in the various large manufactories and warehouses in the district, to whom an Institution of this kind is an inestimable boon. The benefits to be derived from it are so apparent that heads of firms willingly

subscribe to secure the letters of recommendation for distribution to their employés. The subscriptions being—For a Governor, one guinea per annum; or for a Life Governor, ten guineas. In the year 1887 there were 41 Life Governors, and 115 Annual Subscribers. The increase of the work at the Dispensary has been very marked. In the year 1886 20,000 cases were attended, and in 1887 nearly 28,000, besides 60 Maternity cases, and 3,000 patients were visited at their own homes by Dr. Southwood, the Resident Medical Officer.

The revenue of the Society is derived as under :—

- 1.—Dividends on £3,900 Consols.
- 2.—Annual and Life Governors' Subscriptions.
- 3.—Donations from the City Companies and from Parish Vestries.
- 4.—Charitable Bequests.
- 5.—Donations from St. Giles' Parochial Charities.
- 6.—Hospital Saturday and Sunday Funds awards.
- 7.—Payments of 2*d.* from each patient for medicine.

The expenditure is mainly for drugs, and for salaries to the Resident Medical Officer and the Dispenser, and gratuities to the Consulting Physicians; the cost of management, collection, &c., being but little over 5 per cent. of the total expenditure.

The Institution is managed by a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Trustees, and a Committee of 24 Governors; and its medical staff consists of the Resident Medical Officer, a Dispenser, two Physicians, one Consulting Surgeon, and a Secretary, who receives a nominal salary.

Not the least valuable of the charitable institutions of St. Giles, Cripplegate, that are still managed in the spirit of their founders, and that are worthy of all the support that benevolent persons can give, is the METROPOLITAN DISPENSARY.





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